the latest 1SSUE

volume five issue seven

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mid-november ninety-three

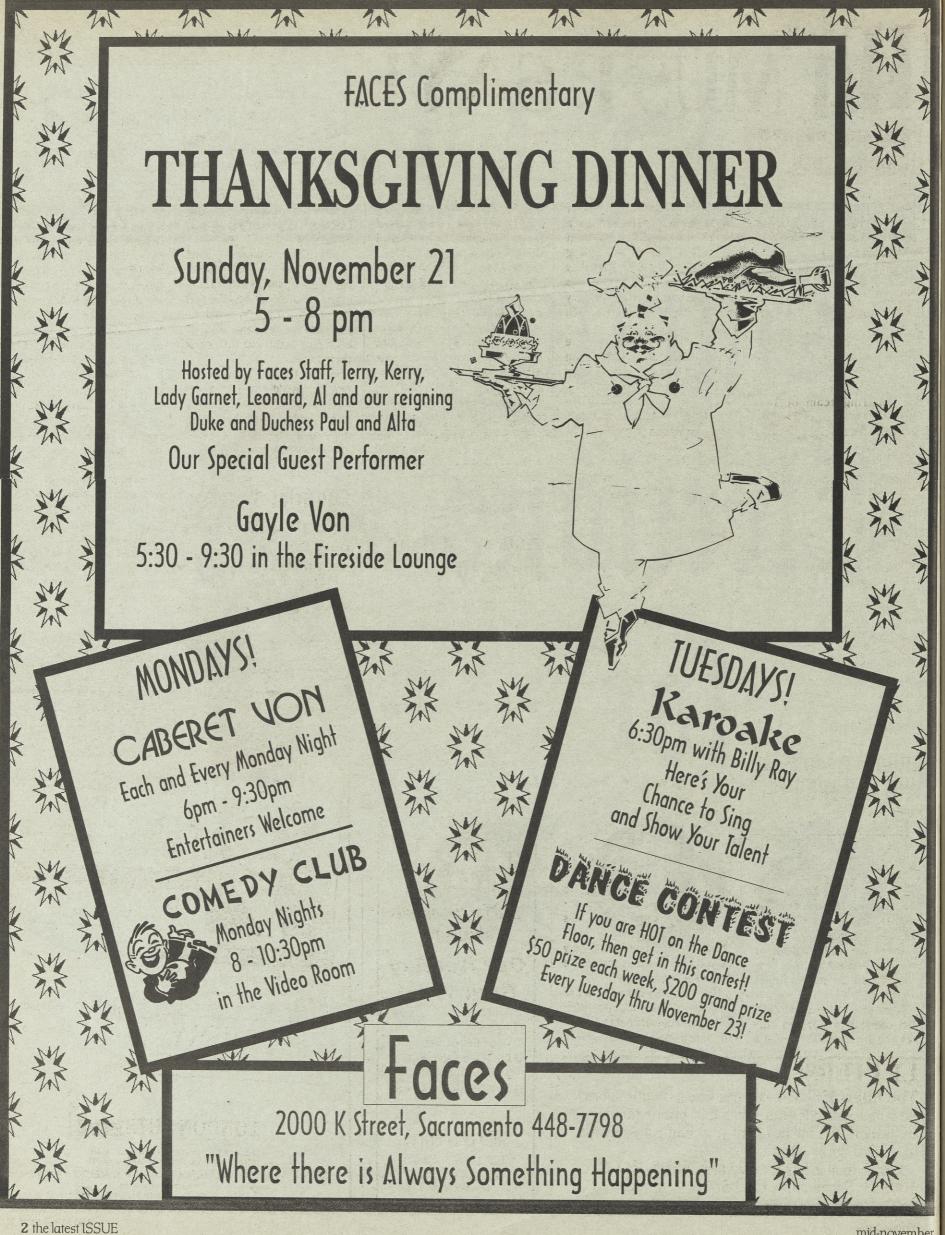
Lea Delaria hosts "Out There," an evening of gay and lesbian stand-up comedy. See story on Page 18

SACRAMENTO'S NEWS MAGAZINE FOR THE GAY COMMUNITY AND ITS FRIENDS

Buying S Elections of the Gay company of the Gay co



See Feature . . . Page 9



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MI MUST SAY!

Veterans' Event a **Huge Success**

Editor,

The 3rd Tribute to Les/ Bi/ Gay Veterans was a huge succeess, due to your efforts and that of Scott Farrell.

Sports Leisure Travel, Joanna Cassesse, and Emperor Paul Paul added their generosity to the affair, along with the work of R & D Micro Graph X, America's Legal Bookstore, (where you can purchase a VHS Tribute Film), Lavender Angels, Norcal Center on Deafness,... the inspiring team of real Christmas from River City MCC.

Thanks too, to all the community leaders who gave of their busy time to be a participant. From Mayor Serna on, what a gathering of real American heros!

One look at the faces of those attending this ceremony reminds me of its importance to healing the hearts of those who have been maimed and blamed for serving in the military. It restores some pride and semblance of sanity to a country that asks you to lie and punishes you when defending the Constitution.. a document that guarantees freedom to every-

Sincerely Lynn Strawbridge

Mutual Respect Will End Bigotry

Michael R. Gorman's article is truly timely. If true equality is to be reached for all of us, gay, straight, black, white, Latino, and Asian. All of us have to have mutual respect for one another. We cannot point our finger at one group and say all of them are evil, racists, or criminals without another person pointing a similar finger towards us.

Some of us in the gay/lesbian community want to correct one group while turning a deaf ear towards others who would want to treat us just as bad if not sometimes worse.

I've heard rap music call us "Faggots" and a rap star refer to the women's movement as "a bunch of white dykes who want to seduce sisters." In Living Color's opening song says they want a world where prejudice is obsolete but then degrades gay males with its stereotype "Men

The real slap in the face came when an African-American San Jose city council person stated that Latinos were like pit bulls, she slanted her eyes when speaking of Asians, and said gays/lesbians received special favors from the city. She also called Rep. Minota a nonchristian because he is Japanese. When she was asked to apologize, some members of the African-American community said that all reasonable persons questioning her were racists.

Wegays / lesbians must stand together against all forms of racism and homophobia no matter where it comes from. Ignorance is in all communities. I would certainly question if it came from the Latino Community as we all should.

Roberto Morales

Real News Not Homophobia

Editor,

In response to Ms. Gould's complaints that her article was unfairly treated by the latest ISSUE's rebuttal editorial.

Ms. Gould, why do you imagine that you have the right to focus your individual viewpoints on the gay community in The Suttertown News? Furthermore, once your article was shown to be misleading halftruths by the latest ISSUE, why do you believe that you deserve some sort of apology?

Heather, why did you choose to write about the gay stretch of 20th Street and not Oak Park or south Sacramento where drugs, prostitution, and drive by shootings are a real problem? Was this an oversight? Or was picking the gay community a safer target for sensationalism? Or was your article spurred on by homophobia? Although I don't know if you are a part of the gay family, I do know that you are not a friend of the gay community

Ms. Gould, the gay community does not need your careless portrayal of our establishments to lure homophobic street punks from suburbia into downtown to increase the incidents of hate crimes. In ending, Heather, as a professional journalist one does cry fire in a full movie house, think about it next time you attempt to do a story you know nothing about.

George Hollcraft,

Mr. Leather Sacramento 1990

Hooray for Hans and Walter

Editor,

I'm compelled to write concerning the heroic efforts of two gay men who are constantly in the front lines in the battle for rights, not only for gays / lesbians but for every decent

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person in the Sacramento area.

Walter Mueller and Hans Huber have courageously stood to improve our quality of living in the downtown area by being leaders in their neighborhood association.

Last month, cowards placed fliers in their area saying that gays/lesbians were unfit to lead in any associations. Mueller and Huber have been taunted by persons driving by and worst of all, a pipe bomb was thrown at their home.

So we in the gay/lesbian community should stand by them and condemn those cowards who would try to push us down and try to shut us up. So let your voices be heard.

Roberto Morales

Editorial Angers Private School

Editor.

As a reader actively invovled in the process of running a new private school, I take issue with many points raised in the editorial; "If Proposition 174 Passes, Open a School." While this issue now, and in the future, will be decided on emotion rather than fact, you need not add to it by presenting an emotionally charged set of arguments that have little to do with the facts.

In your second paragraph you assert that " the state provide \$2,600 per year, to be redeemed at any public or private school". If you read the actual text of the proposition, Section 17 (a) it clearly says "Scholarships may be redeemed by the child's parent at any scholarship-redeeming school." This is not the same thing at all. There are many private schools, along with ours, that would not be scholarship redeeming schools.

The next emotionally charged piece of misinformation you present is, "The proposition specifically states that private schools can restrict admissions based on sex, religion, ability or disability." This is what existing law concerning private schools already permits. This appears

continued on page 4





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ember

LETTERS

continued from page 3

nowhere in the text of the initiative. In fact, the initiative does state in Section 17(b) (1) "No school which discriminates on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, or national origin may redeem scholarships." In section 17(b)(2) it reads; "the State shall prevent from redeeming scholarships basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin,

religion, or gender." There seems to be a profound difference between the actual text and what your article asserts.

Another statement I take issue with is that the initiative "permits private schools to hire 'teachers" with no education or credentials, while public schools can only employ more expensive, properly educated teachers." Once again, this is currently what is allowed by the California Education Code, not

the proposition in question. As for the "properly educated teachers," private schools have those too, but are not dependent on this single viewpoint of the educational experience. There is no doubt that the public education system is severely lacking. Some of us believe, educated teachers implementing single minded "strict state guidelines on what is taught" is the primary reason for the decline of the public schools. Indeed, why is it that these "properly educated teachers" have an inordinately high number of their own children enrolled in private schools? It is certainly not because they are rolling in money. Many teachers in public schools see that real education happens wether the teacher is "properly educated". credentialed-, or just plain Mom and Dad. Some of these very teachers confess that their "proper" education has little to do with real life and how kids

really learn. The reasons you cite for parental selection of private schools are valid. "Proximity to daycare, racial makeup of the student body, and the school's religious affiliation" are concerns fro some parents. The question not asked was if the parent felt their child would get an adequate education. It is not simply asked because the answer is obvious. If they were not getting an adequate education the student would be elsewhere. The unfortunate thing is that the parents who cannot afford it, do not have that op-

As for the statement that "the initiative attempts to chip away at the separation between church and state," when Congress meets it usually starts off

with a prayer. There are innumerable governmental meetings that start with the evoking of the name of the deity. Even our currency bears the motto "In God We Trust". All one need do is open both eyes and ears to realize that only lip service is paid to separation of church and state. It is in fact, nonexistent. That is, except for the facade in front of the public school

Bearing in mind, if I must pay taxes to support schools, I have no problem with tax money going to a school because it teaches religious principles, even if I vehemently disagree with those principles. Providing of course that the student wishes this type of education.

The final area of disagreement, and the reason I did not support this proposition, is the imposition of standardized testing. Ask any teacher, tests do not give an actual indication of educational achievement, only of one's ability to take tests effectively. If teachers have the time to spend with their students on an individual basis, (public school teachers do not) they can reasonably ascertain if the student has a grasp of the subject or not. It is this imposition of national standardized testing that prevents the school I helped found, as well as many others, from ever endorsing this proposition. If all schools must meet these same criteria, then what would be the difference? I object to this bringing down of any school to the lowest common denominator. Don't wave dollars in front of our faces in order to drag us down with you. By the way, what ever happened to strength through diversity?

By utilizing facts and not emotion we gain knowledge. It is because of the facts, not supposition, not opinion, not emotion, that I support vouchers. What is written in prop 174 is why I cannot support it. I favor real choice, not homogenizing blandness this proposition pre-

As you say; "Let's face the facts." If we do, then truth shall set us free.

Sam Senteney

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AROUND TOWN

Tribute to Veterans Evokes Pride and Unity

by Michael R. Gorman

n Saturday, Nov. 6, gay and nongay Sacramentans gathered by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to honor those courageous gays and lesbians who have served in the United States military.

In a surprise announcement, Major Pat Bailey, retired six days prior, announced that she is a lesbian and will spend much of her retirement working to end the military ban on gay and lesbian personnel.

She explained that she had not announced her sexuality while on active duty because, as an officer, she was in a good position to help younger gay and lesbian soldiers deal with the harsh realities of homophobia in the service. Her own peace of mind came second to her commitment to those in her charge who suffered the ban, whom she called "victims of friendly fire."

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Mayor Serna in his address to the crowd spoke of the immutability of sexual orientation and compared it to his own status as a Mexican-American. Neither, he said, should be a basis for discrimination. He urged all Sacramentans to work against prejudice of any kind, whether based on race, religion, gender, or sexual orienta-

Also speaking were First Lieutenant Charles Holmes, Cal.N.G., and Lieutenant Zoe Dunning, U.S.N., both of whom have current court cases challenging the ban.

Hello MY name is Santa

and my butt itches,

ramento Men's Chorus and the Sacramento Women's Chorus, the sponsors announced awards to Chuck Schoen of Veterans C.A.R.E., the Alexander Hamilton American Legion Post 448 (the country's only gay and lesbian American Legion post), and Paul Starr-Fuhr.

Starr-Fuhr was courtmartialed for being gay in 1987. He spent 18 months in the fedpenitentiary Leavenworth Kansas for the "crime" of his sexuality. At the ceremony he was named 1993 Veteran of Honor, an award established in the memory of Colonel David Eckert U.S.A.F. who died of AIDS related causes just before last year's veterans cer-

The final keynote speaker of the day was Petty Officer Keith Meinhold whose court case led to the one-month lifting of the military ban on gays and lesbians by order of Judge Terry J Hatter Jr. on September 30.

The Clinton Administration appealed that order to the U.S. Supreme Court on the grounds that Hatter had overstepped his authority and could only void the ban as it applied to Meinhold. Justice Sandra Day O'Conner, who received the Clinton Administration's request and had the authority to handle it herself referred the issue instead to the full court which contradicted Hatter and the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals (which upheld Hatter's order) and ruled that the interim lifting of the ban in the case could only apply to Meinhold. This left the Pentagon free this month to institute Clinton's so-called "Don't Ask-Don't Tell compromise."

Meinhold spoke of his struggle to reconcile serving in an institution that doesn't want him, working, as inscribed on Starr-Fuhr's award, "for free-

continued on page 30

Demonstrators take a Beating at Capitol

by Arturo Jackson III

The Third Annual Tribute

to Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual

Veterans was sponsored by The

Sacramento Lesbian and Gay

Town Council, the latest ISSUE,

and River City Metropolitan

Community Church. Between

speeches and music by the Sac-

nonviolent political funeral and demonstration by over 100 ACT UP members at the State Capitol Oct. 29 turned ugly when protestors were confronted by a line of State Police.

The protest was in response to Governor Wilson's recent veto of AB260, which would have decriminalized needle exchange laws, and SB670, which

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Police charge demonstrators at ACT UP rally.

would have safeguarded the confidentiality of CD4 test results. Also criticized was Governor Wilson's flat 93-94 AIDS funding which virtually ignores the rising number of people with HIV and AIDS in Califor-

"There were five people at least that were beat with batons and fists by the California State Police," said Matthew Sharp, a member of ACT UP Golden Gate. Security was tight around the State Capitol, with at least a hundred police present to contain the protesters. "First we were stopped by the line of state police with batons and then the horses charged in," added Sharp.

"We took action we felt necessary to maintain law and order and restrain the protesters from the State Capitol," stated Lt. Dennis Williams, Commander of the California State Police. The officers swung their batons at the protesters and whoever else happened to be nearby. People screamed and scattered as five horses charged in the crowd.

Matt Chappel, a member of continued to page 30

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the latest ISSUE 5

NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS

Davis Campus to Open Gay Center

In response to recommendations from the Chancellor's Committee on Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Issues, the University of California at Davis has allocated space on campus for a Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Cen-

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The subcommittee responsible for determining the Center's goals and functions has begun meeting and is currently seeking members from both the campus and city of Davis community.

> also welcome. If you would like to share your ideas or have any questions, please feel free to contact Karen at 752-1736 or Ryan at 759-9464.

Manilow to **Perform Benefit**

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Call Me First!

Pop Superstar Barry Manilow will bring his "Greatest Hits... And Then Some" World Tour to Sacramento's Arco Arena on

Donations to the Center are

Manilow and his management will waive all fees for the show, with 100% of the proceeds going to AIDS organizations in Sacramento.

The Sacramento concert is one stop in Manilow's current "Greatest Hits..." World Tour which has played to sell out crowds in Asia, Europe, and the U.S. In addition to performing the hits that have made Manilow an international superstar, he will sing special cuts from his best selling album "Because It's Christmas."

Sacramento public relations executive and long time community activist, Ted Ross is credited with bringing the benefit concert to town. "It's something I've been working on for more than a year. Events of this magnitude just take time," said Ross. "I had a passionate desire to bring a major act to town for an AIDS benefit, and knew Barry put on a spectacular stage show. Then, after seeing him on the ABC AIDS special 'In A New Light,' I was touched by his deep expression of concern. He was my first choice, and I was ecstatic when he graciously agreed to bring his arena show





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Besides being the largest single AIDS fund raising event in Sacramento's history, Manilow's appearance here is also being called the first event of its kind for any charity in Sacramento. According to Sacramento Mayor Joe Serna, "This is truly a first; never before has an entertainer of Mr. Manilow's stature come to Sacramento and waived all fees to raise money for charity."

The benefit concert is a major coup for the local AIDS organizations who will be benefiting. Against the backdrop of rising HIV caseloads, and reduced local government funding due to tough economic times, the fund raiser couldn't have come at a better time. The Sacramento AIDS Foundation, CARES, and Hope House will share 100% of the proceeds from the event.

Tickets to the concert will range from \$22 to \$28 and may be purchased through the ARCO Box Office at 928-6900, or can be charged by phone through BASS at 923-2277. Those wishing to purchase discounted group tickets (in packages of 10 tickets) should contact the Sacramento AIDS Foundation directly at 448-2437. More information about the concert is available by calling the Manilow Concert Hotline at 446-7525.

Margie Adam to Perform

SACWN welcomes lesbian/ feminist, pop singer/songwriter Margie Adam on Saturday, Nov. 20, when she'll perform at the Crest Theater (1013 K Street) at 8 p.m.

Adam comes to us as part of her multi-city fall tour to showcase the release of "Another Place," her new recording from Pleiades Records. Her performance will highlight songs from her new release, a few old favorites and pieces from another new body of work, Adam's soon

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Leather Work,

to be released piano instrumental recording.

For tickets call SACWN at (916) 451-8034.

Heatwaves Benefit Auction

Limited edition lithographs and serigraphs ranging in price from \$50 to \$1,500 will be auctioned by national auctioneers Dec. 5 at the Townhouse, 1517 21st Street, with a portion of the proceeds to be donated to Sacramento's lesbian and gay swim team, the Sacramento Heatwaves

Money raised will defray costs of the team participating in Gay Games IV, being held in New York in June '94. Do your Holiday shopping early and help Sacramento' swimmers bring home the gold!

For further information, contact Andy at 456-8730 or Harry at 455-7628.

MCC to Purchase **New Building**

River City Metropolitan Community Church has submitted a bid to purchase a church located at Mather Air Force Base. The base closed in October and two chapels will be sold by sealed bids to be opened in December.

"Our services have outgrown the 3418 Broadway building we now use for worship services. This move will improve our space, alleviate our parking problem, move us to a better area, and it looks like a church instead of a bank building," explains Rev. Freda Smith, Pas-

The 3418 Broadway building now used for worship services has been put on the market.

The 34th Street Activities Center will not be sold. The feeding program, country western dance and AA meetings will continue in the same location. Only worship services, some of the church offices and those ministries operating in the Roman architecture bank building will be moving to the new loca-

An evening with entertainment and an auction is scheduled for Nov. 27 beginning at 7:30 pm in River City MCC's, Grand Ballroom at 2741 34th Street. Donations of art, antiques, collectibles and services are welcomed for the auction.





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Sacramento AIDS Hospice Care May Improve

by Stan Carlsen

Six years ago, indigent people living with AIDS had few options in Sacramento. They could depend on their families for care and support, or lacking that, turn to medical facilities for expensive, long-term institutional care. For a good number of people, neither option was available.

Acknowledging the urgency of this problem, the Sacramento AIDS Foundation (SAF) joined its resources with those of the University of California Davis Medical Center and local Catholic charity, Loaves and Fishes. The goal was to acquire building that could house residents

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so far who were close to dying, needing real intensive skilled care. I can't even tell these folks where to go. That's the hardship for me, since these people are dying and need a little quality at the end, instead of spending \$2800 a day in some hospital."

"Hope House is NOT closing. . . In the next few months there will be an additional facility to complement Hope House."

afflicted with AIDS at low cost. Hope House, a stately three-story, 14-bedroom Victorian was rented by Loaves and Fishes, supplied with attendant care by SAF and with skilled nursing by the Med Center.

In 1992, Hope House turned its bottom floor into an 'end-stage' six-bed hospice for those residents who were given six months or less to live. The two upper floors remained a home for AIDS patients who could take care of themselves independently.

This past summer, officials from the State Department of Social Services informed Loaves and Fishes that they must obtain a license or close the hospice facility. It was decided that instead of diverting needed funds from the care of the independent patients, the charity would stop accepting patients seeking 'end-stage' care.

Hope House, however, would continue to operate as a homecare facility for those patients able to take care of themselves.

"Housing for the end-stage patients is a big, big need," says Sister Jane McKirchy, who has directed Hope House since April 1. "I've turned down ten callers Even in the midst of this despair there is a lot of positive movement afoot. Since last spring a core group of twelve to fifteen volunteers, calling themselves the AIDS Housing Alliance (AHA), has been meeting regularly to develop a plan to open a residential hospice that would operate independently of Loaves and Fishes, but initially under the auspice of the SAF.

Under the leadership of Chairman Brian Putler and social worker John Linder, the AHA would act as licensee of the proposed facility. The group





"Housing for the end-stage patients is a big need" says Sister Jane McKirchy, administrator of Hope House.

will use the non-profit status of SAF in order to obtain the li-

"We intend to become an independent non-profit corporation after the first of the year", says Linder. The licensing procedure will break new bureaucratic ground.

"It will be a totally new variety of license", says Linder, "called a Resident Care Facility for the Chronically Ill." "It will allow us to offer not only hospice care, but also something beyond mere independent living", added Putler.

The AHA has already received an offer of a facility owned by an anonymous gentleman. The building is located on a major thoroughfare in Oak Park and has lots of land around it. One of the AHA board members has begun designing landscaping plans that would make it a truly

unique setting for both residents and visitors.

"We are still in the process of negotiating an agreement with the owner", says Linder. "In the light of immediate need, we will try to first rent a single-story, single-family residence somewhere in the county to tide us over until the nicer facility is ready."

"Just be sure that your readers know that Hope House is NOT closing", says Putler. "No one is being kicked out into the streets and in the next few months there will be an additional facility to complement Hope House."

The AIDS Housing Alliance is presently putting together its first fundraiser. It will be held on World AIDS Day, Dec. 1. "Our idea is to have a drawing of some thirty items made up of

reindeer food.

The Santa Survey shows that most reindeer prefer muffins from Muffins Etc. for their holiday snacks, and so will you. Order now for your holiday parties and meetings, or send gift boxes to your favorite clients.

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gift certificates from restaurants and merchants," says Brian Putler. Donors would buy tickets at 2 dollars each or an 'arm-span' for 20 dollars". Those interested in buying tickets should call the AIDS Foundation at 448-2437. Putler and Linder hope to raise at least \$2500 to \$5000 to get the new hospice into operation as soon as possible.



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Obituaries



Chris Chilton

Suddenly, on the morning of Nov. 2, James Christie "Chris" Chilton, who had been fighting HIV disease for many years, died of complications. His death came as a surprise to those who knew him. At the time of his death, Chris, age 41, was visiting the family of his life partner, Tracy R. McBroom, in Iowa.

Born in El Paso, Texas, Nov. 22, 1951, Chris had been a Sacramento resident for the past 5 years, and had retired several months ago after 5 years as a

civil engineer at MacKay & Somps.

He was a Hand-to-Hand volunteer at the Sacramento AIDS Foundation for 5 years, and for 2 years headed the orientation committee that interviews potential volunteers. He was crowned the Munchkin Emperor of Reno and enjoyed participation in the Court system in Reno.

Chris was a moving force in bringing the AIDS Memorial Quilt to Sacramento. He was chairman of the committee which brought it here 3 years ago, and cochaired the committee for the 1993 display 5 weeks before his death.

In addition to his life partner,

Tracy, he leaves behind very special friends who will miss him -- Dennis, Tim, Michelle, Karl, Michael, Tom and Steve, his fellow Hand-to Hand trainers and volunteers, members of the Stockton and Reno Courts, his dear friends on the Quilt committees in both Sacramento and San Francisco, and his numerous other friends through-

out the community, as well as his devoted family—his mom and dad Ed and Martha, sisters Eddie Sue, Denise, and Sharon, brother Dennis, nephews and nieces, and his grandmother "Granny Beth."

Chris had been working diligently with other members of the Sacramento Quilt Committee to obtain "chapter" status for Sacramento. Chapter authorization was received on the day Chris' family brought him home from Iowa. Remembrances in his name may be made to the newly designated "NAMES Project Sacramento Chapter," P.O. Box 160263, Sacramento 95816, or to SAF's Hand-to Hand Project, 920-20th Street, Sacramento 95814.

Tom Richardson

A memorial for Tom Richardson was held at St. Francis Church on Oct. 2, with Brother Angelo Cardinalli and Reverend Freda Smith presiding. Oct. 2 is also the day the Franciscan Friars bless the animals. St. Francis loved all God's creatures, as did Tom. Tom centered the last six years of his life rescuing hundreds of homeless dogs, and then finding homes for them.

Tom also cared about people: In 1983 he was a co-founder of the Hand to Hand Project, helping to design the training program, and interviewing, training, and supervising the first groups of volunteers. Tom cared about people with HIV, and provided love and caring for his friends with HIV, including placing pets with them whenever he could.

Tom was an excellent social worker, providing patient care through the University of California at Davis and the County of Sacramento. A union member, he helped lead the strike of Sacramento County Social workers in the 1960's, joining his colleagues in jail and working at the Port of Sacramento. He most recently worked at the Sacramento County Mental Health Center, and was a member of AFSME, Local 0146, Sublocal 100.

Tom was preceded in death by his lover, Martyn Matthews, in 1982, and his parents, Harold and Dorothy Austin Richardson. He is survived by brothers Patrick and Harold Richardson and sisters Mary Piech, Susan Cline, plus many friends.

We will miss this joyful and gentle man.



Bradford C. Liszt

On Friday evening, Oct. 8, Sacramento Men's Chorus member Brad Liszt died at the home of his parents in Auburn after a lengthy and valiant fight with AIDS

Brad delighted in being a member of the Chorus. He loved the camaraderie as much as he loved to sing. His involvement with Carmichael Civic Theatre and Best of Broadway productions brightened his life as well.

He was also a familiar face behind the scenes of local concerts and productions, where he and his dear friend Karen spent countless hours managing the lighting and other aspects of these shows to make them special for us all. Buvi

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He will long be remembered as the fairy at the bottom of the garden in the Chorus' July 1991 musical fable "When I Was Young." And few will forget him leaving his wheelchair at their St. Francis concert this summer and joining the Chorus one last time to sing "Family."

Brad leaves behind his very special friends Russ, Karen, David, Cheech, Ruth, Carl, Gregg, and Kathy, as well as many, many others. He'll be missed not only by the Sacramento Men's Chorus, but also by his country dancing partners, by those who benefited from his advice at the Gifted Gardener, and by those who knew him through the other activities he enjoyed so much.

Born in Yucaipa in southern California, he came to Sacramento in 1980. He is survived by his loving family-his mom Elizabeth, father John, brothers Rick and Doug, sister Deanna, sister-in-law Claudia, brother-in-law Bryan, and his dear nieces and nephew.

A memorial rose will be planted in his honor within the next few months. Contributions in his name may be made to CARES, SAF, or the UCDMC Cancer Center.

Gene Black

At 9:30 pm on Monday, Oct 25, Sacramento's gay, lesbiar and bisexual community lost a friend; Gene Black, 44, mid town poet and co-founder of Wordjam open mike poetry reading, died of respiratory failure.

Gene served as a mentor to many in the poetry community, a number of them gay or bisexual, and he was a strong advocate of poetry as a means of breaking the silence of the closet.

He was unequivocably supportive of Michael Gorman (whom he called "Poet Laureate Emeritus of Lavender Heights) in his confrontations with censorship of his gay themed poetry. Gene attended protests, contacted media, and wrote his own responses to homophobia and censorship. Said Gorman, "I remember Gene

continued on page 12



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Allied Business Pac - a Tool of Christian Right

by Martin D. Casey

In less than two years, a new player on the California political scene --L the Allied Business PAC -- has dramatically shaken long held assumptions about how to influence policy and legislation in Sacramento.

There are strong indications that the political agenda of the PAC is closely tied to that of the fundamentalist Christian

Allied, with its principal founders, State Senator Rob Hurtt and financier Howard Ahmanson, has focused on a unique strategy of massively funding the campaigns of ideologically aligned candidates, rather than contributing primarily to incumbents.

The results so far have significantly shaped the freshman class of legislators and presented a challenge to existing leadership in both houses.

Allied Business PAC was conceived in 1992 by four Southern California businessmen. Together, Howard Ahmanson, Rob Hurtt, Ed Atsinger, and Roland Hinz recognized that they could have a greater impact on campaigns across the state by pooling their resources rather than contributing as individuals.

They donated a total of \$1,290,242 to Allied in 1992. In addition, the four continued to donate to specific candidates and organizations as individuals, thereby permitting greater total contributions than would have been possible either as a PAC or as individuals alone.

In 1992, the total contributions by these four men to Allied, individual candidates, and other PACs and initiatives totaled over \$2,241,000.

Most visible among the four is Rob Hurtt, who owns the Container Supply Company, based in Orange County.

Container Supply Company contributed over \$500,000 to Allied, and Hurtt contributed another \$165,000 directly to candidates in the 1992 elections. Hurtt was a Co-Chair of ExCel, the organization which put Proposition 174, the school voucher initiative, on the November ballot.

Hurtt won election to the state Senate himself in a special election in March of this year, and he is already positioning himself to challenge Senate Minority Leader Ken Maddy.

Hurtt contributed \$235,000 of his own money to his campaign, effectively intimidating any serious challengers.

Hurtt said after the election that his motive for running was to keep track of the candidates he had just helped fund the year before -- he was quoted in the San Francisco Examiner as saying, "I thought I'd better

come up here and watch them. I'm not sure whether these people are going to follow through with what they told me they were going to

Howard

Ahmanson is the heir to Home Savings of America, which is valued at \$38 billion and is currently the nation's largest Savings and Loan.

Ahmanson is the largest single donor to Allied, providing \$565,000 in 1992. Ahmanson is also a strong opponent of abortion rights, and his contributions of \$130,000 to the California Pro-Life Council constituted fully 85 percent of their funding in 1992.

He and his wife also contrib-uted heavily to the school voucher initiative. Their donations to ExCel in 1992 reached \$75,000, and those for 1993 were anticipated to top the \$100,000 mark.

Roland and Lila Hinz own Daisy/Hi-Torque Publications, publishers of a number of successful bike magazines. Their contribution to Allied totaled just over \$100,000.

They also supported the lobbying activities of the Traditional Values Coalition and the Christian Coalition.

Edward Astinger is partowner of Salem Communications, which owns a network of 18 Christian radio stations. He gave \$100,000 to Allied in 1992.

By virtue of its size, Allied was certain to be a major political player.

According to research compiled by California Common

expenditures in 1992.

ferent from any of the other ma-

Cause, in less than a year Allied became the fourth largest contributor to state legislative races, easily surpassing such traditional heavyweights as the insurance industry and the California Trial Lawyers Associa-

In fact, Allied contributed nearly as much as the California Teacher's Association, which also ranked among the top five for lobbying

Yet Allied's strategy is radically dif-

"Allied exists not to lobby, but to elect and fund people who share their vision." And that vision is a "patriarchal theocracy, in which gays and lesbians are to be changed, pitied, or

stoned." Robert Rios - LIFE Lobby

jor interests. Tradi-

tionally, incumbents have been the primary recipients of PAC money -- this is to assure lobbying access for the industry or interest.

In 1992, the top ten PACs gave nearly 60% of their donations to incumbents and 30% to candidates in races with no incumbent. By contrast, only 7% of Allied's donations were to incumbents.

Allied instead shrewdly targeted races which had been opened up by reapportionment, funnelling nearly 60% of their funds to open seats.

In a challenge to traditional Republican leadership, Allied used 30% of its funds to back seventeen candi-

dates in competitive Republican Assembly primaries -twelve of whom won. Of these twelve, six won election to the Assembly in the fall.

The contribution patterns also differed in size and focus. Whereas Common Cause found that most PACs spread their money to many candidates across the political spectrum, Allied concentrated on heavy donations to a few.

As an example, Common Cause notes that the California Teacher's Association gave to over 125 legislative candidates

in 1992; Allied gave to only 26.

The ten largest PAC donors in 1992 gave a median contribution of \$3,000 per candidate; Allied gave \$16,000.

In addition, Hurtt himself interviewed prospective candi-

dates to make certain of their ideological the 10th Assembly District seat.

Allied donors also helped Tim Leslie in his bid to move up into the State Senate seat vacated by John Doolittle, and they contributed \$2,200 to David Knowles.

The significance of these strategies is clear. Allied has spurned gaining access to legislators who are responsible to a variety of competing interests in favor of electing candidates responsible primarily to Allied

Robert Rios, lobbyist with LIFE AIDS lobby in Sacramento, notes that "Allied exists not to lobby, but to elect and fund people who share their vision." And, Rios warns, that vision is essentially a "patriarchal theocracy, in which gays and lesbians are to be changed, pitied, or stoned.

> The individuals in charge of Allied have been associated with conservative and Christian activism for some time. For instance, in 1987, Hurtt Ahmanson

founded the Capitol Resource Institute (CRI), a registered lobbying group which is affiliated with James Dobson's Focus on the Family organization.

Family materials provided by Sacramento's Project Tocsin, a watchdog organization which monitors the religious right, a primary concern of the fundamentalist Christian community is that the "gatekeepers" of society's values must be brought

By "gatekeepers," they refer to "the people who control government, education, law, entertainment and the media".

One strategy for accomplishing this, clearly, is to elect persons to these gatekeeping positions who already share these moral absolutes.

The CRI has been quite visible in its opposition to gay and lesbian issues. CRI lobbied strenuously in tandem with the Traditional Values Coalition against Assemblyman Terry Freidman's AB 101, which would have prohibited discrimination against gays and lesbians in the workplace and in housing.

CRI sponsored a workshop

compatibil-

ity, resulting in dozens of political pilgrimages on the part of

According to Focus on the candidates hoping to win Allied funding. By pooling their resources through the PAC structure, Allied's donors were able to have a significant impact on races well outside their Southern "back to moral absolutes." California base. For instance, Allied targeted several races in the Sacramento area. Assemblyman B.T. Collins

> here in Sacramento this past January on how to influence government, including among continued on page 13

ally attributed to her strident anti-abortion, Christian based stance. After Collins' death from a heart attack, Allied repositioned Alby

barely fought back a

primary challenge from

Barbara Alby, who re-

ceived \$22,000 from Al-

lied donors in 1992.

Alby's loss was gener-

so that her message was probusiness/anti-tax and sent her up again in the special election, which she won handily this past

Larry Bowler received an astonishing \$102,000 from Allied and its donors in his race for

vember ninety-three

GOUTTA TOWN

Russian Prisons Still Holding and Torturing Gays

by PJ Dunker

Ressen is a gay and lesbian rights advocate who has been struggling to secure the release of at least 73 gay men serving time in Russian prisons for consentual sex.

The prison term for sodomy in Russia was five years.

The law was repealed earlier

Licensed



Masha Gessen is working to free gays in Russia.

this year due to the country's reforms and inmates serving time were to have been released immediately but many were not.

After spending two months in her native Russia as part of a task force to research and focus attention on the cases, the

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San Francisco based Gessen, felt she had made some progress in obtaining access to state records that would enable her to fight for the prisoner's rights.

"It's hard to tell whether or not someone is a real criminal or just agay man, because sometimes they are convicted of attempting to commit a crime. In the case of gay men, the crime is attempting to commit sodomy, " Gessen said.

However, the recent political turmoil in Russia has prompted Gessen to express concern. She noted that, "each time there is a governmental upheaval, records tend to get destroyed or reclassified to restricted access."

Women in Russia, although

free from any specific article of criminalization for being lesbian, also did not escape persecution or internment in jail or prison if their sexual orientation was in doubt. say

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Gessen noted one instance where a woman was repeatedly arrested and held for fifteen days in jail without ever being charged with a specific crime. In other instances women were accused and convicted of a variety of other charges, frequently fictitious, because they were lesbians.

Although the country now has continued on page 30

10% or 1 %? How Many of Us Are There?

by Steve Bistransky

Ten percent is the figure most bandied around within our community as the figure most representative of the fraction of the population we represent.

When asked how large are the numbers of gay men in the United States, most respondents, gay, lesbian, bi's and a few straights will answer 10 percent of the total population. But where did this figure come from? This 10 percent? And is it accurate?

A recent study by the Batelle Human Affairs research Center and released by the Alan Guttmacher Institute last spring says only 2.3 percent of their sampling reported homosexual activity in the last ten years and only 1.1 percent said they were

exclusively homosexual. How can there be such a discrepancy?

The Kinsey Institute is said to have established a ten percent figure without fully understanding what Dr. Kinsey had said.

He did not say that at any given time 10 percent of the population was gay. He did say that at any given time, 10 percent of the male population over the age of 16 had a period in their lives of at least three years during which their principal sexual activity was homosexual.

Clearly, these are two differ-

ent figures. For the most part the Batelle study cannot be compared with the Kinsey Study. The two are not reporting on the same material.

Primarily, Kinsey never referred to people as homosexual but instead placed everyone on a continuum from exclusively homosexual to exclusively heterosexual. Kinsey was more interested in behavior than in what people called themselves. In the 1948 report it was indicated that:

1.) 37% of adult males had at least some overt homosexual experience to orgasm.

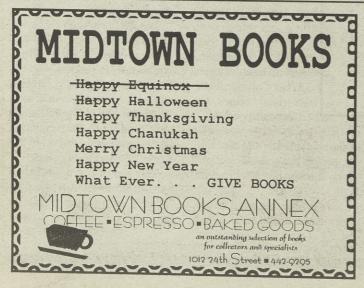
2.) 10% of males were more or less exclusively homosexual and 8% were exclusively for at least three years between the ages of 16 and 55.

3.) 4% of the white males had been exclusively homosexual from the beginning of puberty to the time of their interview with the institute.

According to the institute, the Kinsey samples are best for young adults, particularly college-educated and are poorest for minorities and the economically disadvantaged as well as the disenfranchised. The sample included some institutionalized men. These possible flaws in sampling opened the report to some criticism.

Paul Gebhard succeeded Alfred Kinsey as head of the institute and set about to eliminate sample bias. In his "Final Report and Background Papers continued on page 26







10 the latest ISSUE

Christmas Preview: To Give We Must First Shop

by Michael R. Gorman

omedienne Cathy Ladman says of religion, "All religions are basically the same; they're just guilt with different holidays."

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Perhaps that explains why at Christmas season in every major newspaper in the country. tucked between inches of advertising flyers and inserts, is the media's obligatory exercise in penance: that seasonal article about the loss of the true meaning of Christmas.

Like boorish relatives, it shows up without fail. But ask most nicotine-stained editors, veterans of years of publishing these tomes, what the "true meaning of Christmas" is, and you'll likely get a look that says, "Okay, what's the punchline; we're on deadline here."

Despite its Christian name, Christmas is firmly rooted in both the Christian tradition and a much earlier pagan holiday, Saturnalia, which the Catholic Church tried, not altogether successfully, to appropriate back in the Dark Ages (pre-Macy's). Both traditions involved "goodwill toward men," but the earlier version required much more shopping.

Aside from the obvious oversight of "goodwill toward women and children" (which only proves that culture, like everything else, must be periodically redecorated or it gets too old and tacky for words), the holiday is not really a bundle of contradictions.

Any queen worth her Mastercard knows that it is possible to give unselfishly to the world and shop at the same time. The key is not to keep the best stuff yourself. The problem, however, is that the Christmas list grows awfully long. Size queens aside, what can be done?

A group of clever gay men (isn't that a redundancy?) in San Francisco has provided a fabulous answer. It is possible now to shop your little pumps off and give to AIDS charities at the very same time no matter what the size of your, well, list. Tax deductible shopping: is that



Volunteer coordinator Tom Radulovich with Christmas goodies from Under One Roof. All proceeds from the sales benefit AIDS agencies.

a dream come true or what? So grab your earth-friendly canvas shopping bag and race on down to 2362 Market Street in San Francisco to a store called "Under One Roof."

Under One Roof began as a six-week holiday sale back in 1990. Daniel Goldstein, who is

now the President of the Board of Directors of the organization, was at the time the president of Visual Aid selling tshirts for AIDS charities. While looking for outlets for his products he mused about how great it would be to have a store in which to sell. He called other

AIDS agencies who were individually selling t-shirts, buttons, coffee mugs, and other gifts as fundraisers and, as he puts it, "It was a little like Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney saying, 'Let's put on a show!" An idea was born, at a metaphorically correct time of year.

According to project coordinator Matt Clark, the store, which was housed its first years in a donated corner of the Names Project office, earned \$110,000 for various AIDS organizations. By the end of this holiday season, the store's total contribution to AIDS funding will be well over a million dollars. And because the operating costs of the shop and staff are completely underwritten by donations from individuals and corporations, including Miller Brewing Company, The Gap, The San Francisco Examiner, James C. Hormel, and Chevron, sales goes back to the AIDS agencies.

Although the store's manager speaks in hushed tones about the paper trail required in dealing with over 70 AIDS service organizations, the store itself has a relaxed atmosphere and looks like any upscale, uptown gift boutique run by men who can decorate.

The sales clerks are volunteer and therefore lack that manic yet suicidal vulture quality common to so many sales people at this time of year. The merchandise is wonderfully eclectic, from t-shirts to calendars, mugs, candles, sculpture, pottery, ties, swimming goggles, games, soaps, condoms and lube, tapes and cd's, accessories, accessories, accessories, rubber skirts, books, framed art and photographs, plants, holiday

continued on page 12



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OBITUARIES

continued from page 8

chuckling once when telling me about a redneck who thought Gene was my lover because of the way he supported me. Gene never bothered to tell the guy he was straight. He said he was



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Howe 'bout Arden Center

Howe & Arden 648-8018

flattered, and more than a little amused."

Gene served as a judge for the first two years of the Lambda Freedom Fair's Poet Laureate contest. One of his greatest joys was hearing voices raised where there used to be

His legacy continues in the works of the scores of local poets, gay, bi and straight, whom he gave the courage to write and then read before an

Gene's wife Leslie has asked that any remembrances be given to Wordjam Poetry Reading which meets at Cafe Neo. on P Street around the corner from The Townhouse, on Wednesday nights.



Steven R. Weiss

Steven Raymond Weiss (aka "Gray Hankie") exited this stage peacefully at MercyCare, in Sacramento, on Oct. 29, at the tender age of 33, leaving many friends and family members.

He is survived by his family and his family of choice here in Sacramento, Sharon and Philip Sigler and their children Shawn

and Caitlin. Even before they had become his primary caregivers and emotional support system for the past three years, the Sigler family was immensely loved, admired, and appreciated by Steven.

The Siglers and his longtime friend Mike Kelly who saw him through his last days would like to thank Mercy Hospice nurse Jennifer Hammond for the quality of care she provided Steven at home during his last three months before hospitalization

Steven spent countless volunteer hours over the last four years with both the Sacramento Area Regional Theater Alliance and with Shalom School (where his nephew Shawn & niece Caitlan attend). He got the chance to share his comprehensive knowledge of computers with youngsters, and to give back to the community the

wealth of his theater expertise.

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He will be sorely missed by the hundreds of computer bulletin boards members and by the leather community who knew him by his favorite handle, Gray Hankie.

Steven's memorial service at Temple B'Nai Israel on Oct. 31 was a wonderfully joyous and tearful remembrance of that exuberant spirit in all that he did. Friends of the theater, fellow actors, BBS members, and leather folk all reminisced with piquant vignettes which embodied Steven's charisma.

Rabbi Lester Frazin concluded Steven's service with characteristic ingenuity and decorum - he recommended a standing ovation as his final tribute. We applauded so loud and so long we know you heard us in heaven, Steven. We miss



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> Friday, December 3, 7:00PM MARY MACKEY Reading & Signing The Year the Horses Came

Wednesday, December 1, 7:00PM MELISSA KWASNY Reading & Sig Trees Call For What They Need

Wednesday, December 8, 7:00 PM JUDY GRAHN Reading & Signing Blood, Bread, and Roses

ONE ROOF

continued from page 11

decorations, license plate holders, vests and silk boxer shorts. Open Hand has a shelf of dessert toppings, Amazonia AIDS Health Project offers art jewelry, and The Godfather Service Fund sells edible teddy bears.

Volunteer Paul Alsbach, who researched other organizations when looking for a place to donate his time, said, "It's probably one of the best organized groups that I've seen. It's pretty satisfying." Another clerk named Naomi (aka Rick LeBlanc) concurred, "I really believe in the store. It's positive. It's one of the best ways I can give back to the community.

Board President Goldstein

said of the experience working the store, "My greatest memory has been people bringing their merchandise up, paying their money and then saying, 'Thank you' to the salesperson rather than the other way around."

Because the store serves all of Northern California in its statement of purpose, the managers would like very much to hear from any Sacramento area AIDS agencies interested in selling merchandise at its prime location near Castro and Market streets. Representative of such agencies can call 415-252-9430.

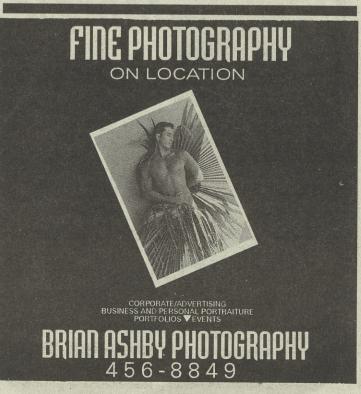
Under One Roof became a year-round store in January of this year. This Christmas season for the first time it is offering a line of holiday greeting cards with art designs provided by the various AIDS agencies

It is possible now to shop your little pumps off and give to AIDS charities at the very same time no matter what the size of your, well, list.

that benefit from the sales. Cards can be ordered at the store or by calling 415-252-8527.

This queen with a pen, however, strongly recommends a personal visit. Just grab your little goodwill toward men, women and children Christmas list and heel-click yourself over to the Emerald City to see the store for yourself. Or be environmentally correct and keep the Christmas trees from wilting by carpooling it with friends down the yellow brick roa ... er .. Interstate 80, to the city by the bay.

There you will find a store that by its very nature defines the true and multifaceted meaning of the Christmas season: Decorate! Shop! Give!



12 the latest ISSUE

RIGHT WING continued from page 9

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the topics how to combat "Behavior Based Civil Rights" -read lesbian and gay rights.

Legislatively, the candidates supported by Allied Business PAC have not yet put forward any coherent or comprehensive agenda. LIFE's Robert Rios suggests that, during this first year, these new legislators are still learning the ropes.

It is difficult to discern whether they view themselves as "Messiahs or as dams against the flood of moral decay," according to Rios. "Messiahs," he warns, "are more dangerous. Proactive stances are more effective than reactive ones."

Nevertheless, Rios points out that their responses to bills already in the pipeline have been strikingly uniform.

LIFE tracked legislative floor votes on ten major civil rights and AIDS-related bills this past session. Of the 21 worst voting records on these bills, 16 were held by members whose campaigns had been funded by Allied in 1992. No Allied sponsored member had a positive record.

More troubling to Rios, however, is a look at some of the Allied funded candidates who lost their elections in 1992. Dick Daleke, for instance, received \$108,000 from Allied in his race against incumbent Mike Gotch - and Gotch received a perfect voting rating from LIFE Lobby. Similarly, Phil Hawkins received \$116,000 from Allied to run against incumbent Bob Epple, who also received a perfect rating from LIFE Lobby. Brad Parton received \$131,000 against Debra Bowen, who has a near perfect rating. The pattern repeats in three other close

"Look at what we would have lost if they had won those six seats," Rios noted. "AB 260, needle exchange, would have died in the Assembly. It only had 44 votes. AB 1100 (Willie Brown's health insurance bill) would have failed, and AB 478 also (breast cancer research funding)." The six legislators targeted for defeat by Allied were vital to the success of LIFE's legislative agenda this session.

Recently, Allied's activities have been garnering some unflattering publicity. Rob Hurtt was being called a "kingmaker" in the press due to his successful efforts to back conservative Maurice Johannessen against moderate Bev Hansen in the Republican primary for the 4th Senate District seat. Hansen

was strongly supported by Senate Majority Leader Ken Maddy, and her loss was a sharp blow to Maddy's leadership in the Senate.

In mid-October, California Common Cause filed a complaint against Hurtt and the Allied Business PAC with the state Fair Political Practices Commission. The complaint alleges that Allied should be considered a candidate controlled committee of Senator Hurtt, and that as such, its contributions in the Johannessen race violated state regulations.

Furthermore, Common Cause alleges that considerable evidence exists that another group, called Citizens for Change (CFC), is a sponsored committee of Allied. The two groups share the same address and the same donors, and if the FPPC should determine that CFC is in fact a sponsored committee, then certain donations made by CFC could violate state regulations. A decision is anticipated in by early December.

Concurrently, embarrassing information came to light that Johannessen, who had staked out a hardline position against illegal immigration, had himself entered the United States illegally when he arrived here from Norway 40 years ago. Although Johannessen was forced to devote considerable time and energy to explaining himself, in the end he did win the general election on Nov. 2.

Overall, Allied has hit upon a strikingly successful strategy for influencing legislative policy.

Much of its continued success will depend on the cohesion of the Allied funded candidates, and indications are that they will pursue a strongly antigay and lesbian agenda.

Thus far, they have contented themselves mostly with attempting to block legislation of value to this community, but that stance could change rapidly if Allied candidates continue to meet with electoral

Senator Hurtt is already in a position to unseat Ken Maddy as the Senate Minority Leader; this will only solidify his position as a new leader of the Christian right.

For the lesbian and gay community to counter Allied's growing influence will require innovative and vigilant political activity.

Rios observes that Allied's tactics would be extremely difficult to duplicate: "Where are you going to find four or five out-of-the-closet, gay or lesbian multi-millionaires to com-

mit similar amounts of money?"

Rios does believe that one aspect of the Allied plan might be adapted to our community "electing our own." The lesbian and gay vote has been divided historically between better-known, supportive straight candidates and less familiar gay and lesbian candidates. But there are increasing numbers of viable, articulate candidates from within our community, and getting them into office should be a top priority.

An effective strategy, Rios argues, is for us to work at turning out the gay and lesbian vote statewide as a block so that we can begin to exert some leverage

San Francisco has successfully elected four openly gay or lesbian Supervisors by bringing the gay and lesbian community together as a block and then reaching out to other constituencies. "It is important that we engage proactively early in a campaign, rather than just reacting to an electoral threat," says Rios, "We have to have the wherewithal to hold their feet to the fire when things get rough."

Some information for this article was provided by Jerry Sloan of Project Toxin and P.J. Dunker.



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OF LIFE

The latest NEWS BITS

Partners Get Benefits

The domestic partners of gay New York city employees will receive full health benefits under a new agreement announced Oct. 30 by Mayor David Dinkins. The deal was worked out with Municipal Labor Council and with the Gay Teachers Association, which had sued the city in 1988 over health benefits. The group charged the city with discrimination because heterosexual spouses automatically received benefits. The suit was resolved as part of the deal,

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problem with religions

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"What I am announcing today is nothing short of historic -- a milestone that we have worked long and hard together to achieve," Dinkins said.

Hundreds Hit Hawaii Hearing

Hundreds of people turned out Oct. 29 for a hearing on the question of same-sex marriage and for 12 hours made emotional pleas for and against the

There were some shouting matches and heated debates from before the meeting started, as people with differing views walked into the Mabel Smyth Auditorium side by side.

Five hundred people signed up to testify, and the hearing lasted 12 hours.





by House Judiciary Chairman Terrence Tom, who says the meeting will provide voter comment that will be considered in any bills lawmakers consider next session. There are no specific bills at the moment.

The Hawaii state Supreme Court has ruled that the state's ban on gay marriages is unconstitutional, but an appeal means it may be at least two years before a final decision is

Gay Benefits at Apple Site?

Apple Computer Inc.'s progressive benefits policies for gays and lesbians have come under attack in a conservative Texas county where the computer maker plans to build a new plant.

Two anti-gay commissioners of Williamson County, a suburb near Austin, say they want to deny Apple tax benefits for a customer-support service center the company plans to build in suburban Williamson County. The county is beginning to see a spillover of high technology companies from neighboring Austin.

Gay rights advocates say the Texas case marks the first time elected officials have battled gay and lesbian rights by attacking a private company that offers health care benefits to employees and their same sex

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partners. Past political moves against gays and lesbians by religious and conservative political groups have targeted state and local ordinances that protect gay and lesbian rights.

Apple has an option to buy 130 acres for a new customer support center expected to employ 700 workers. The center now operates in three separate leased facilities in the Austin area.

Greg Boatright, county commissioner of Liberty Hill, Texas said Apple would be an asset to Williamson County in most respects, but added, "We shouldn't extend the abatement benefit to Apple because I personally don't approve of health benefits policies which encourage same-sex marriages." He added that Apple's policy, which also extends benefits to unmarried heterosexual live-in partners of its employees, also "sheds a negative light marriage, which I don't like to see downgraded."

Mayor Deflects Sexuality Issue

Cincinnati, OH -- Just days after voters rejected a homosexual rights ballot issue, the city's mayor-elect was deflecting questions about her own sexual orientation.

Callers to a Thursday night radio talk show quizzed Councilwoman Roxanne Qualls, with one asking, "Did I or did I not vote for a lesbian?"

Qualls said the question was inappropriate and refused to answer. "It's not an issue," she said in an interview after the show. "Questions about private lives of people are really inappropriate and very clearly distract from the pressing issues for the city."

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Rumors began to circulate after Qualls, who supported the homosexual rights ballot issue, appeared Wednesday at a gay rights rally. "We are wonderful," she said at the time, explaining later that "we" referred to people attending the rally.

Gay Couples Get Spousal Benefits

An arbitrator on Oct. 1 ordered the Canadian government to extend spousal benefits to the partners of gay federal employees, the national daily Globe and Mail reported.

Marguerite-Marie Galipeau, an arbitrator with the federal Public Service Staff Relations Board, ruled that the government's refusal to extend family and bereavement leave to David Lorenzen violates the Canadian Human Rights Act.

Lorenzen, a gay federal employee from Vancouver, filed a grievance last year after his boss turned down a request for family leave to care for his partner, who had suffered a leg fracture. Lorenzen filed a second grievance when, upon the death of his partner's father, continued on next page

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Daryl Bean, president of the federal employee union, hailed the ruling as a "major step," and said his group, the Public Service Alliance of Canada, will use the decision to launch 15 additional grievances by gay federal employees. The Canadian Human Rights Commission on the other hand, called it only a "use-

California Couple **Wins Suit**

A gay male couple in Santa Ana who challenged a photographer's decision to exclude them from a high school reunion photo album have won their case on appeal.

A three judge panel of the fourth District Court of Appeals ruled photographer Dan Worthington violated the men's civil rights because he excluded based on gender. David Engel attended the 10th reunion of his University High School class in 1987 and paid to have his picture taken with his partner, Eric Underwood, and have the photo included in a keepsake photo album.

who refused to print the men's

want to use the album as "a forum for lifestyle," says his actions were not discriminatory and that they will appeal.

Roseanne's tip: 'Don't sweat it'

Eldon, Iowa -- In a new regular feature of five Iowa weekly newspapers, Roseanne Arnold is dishing out advice, including some reassuring words to a 15year-old girl who is afraid she may be a lesbian.

"Confusion and crushes are perfectly normal at your age," Arnold wrote in her advice column, called "Dear Rosey." " Others may tell you different, but being a lesbian is OK! In general, they are great people!"

The advice column is a new feature in the five weeklies that cover the small towns of Eldon, Batavia, Fremont, Eddyville, Hedrick, and New Sharon, according to a United Press International Item.

Muppets Outed!

With a performance of

Officials say rumors that Sesame Street's Bert and Ernie characters are supposedly portraying a gay couple have circulated across the country and managed to filter into the state.

"There is no truth whatsoever to the rumors that Bert and Ernie are married," said a spokesperson with Jim Henson Productions, the company started by Jim Henson who created the muppet characters more than 20 years ago.

Tupelo Coliseum manager Mike Marion said his office has been receiving calls for several weeks from people looking for verification of the rumor.

Groups Back Health Plan

Leaders of Human Rights Campaign Fund and the AIDS Action Council have announced that they will support President Clinton's proposed health care reform plan. "The broad principles in the proposal set forth by the president provide the first comprehensive na-

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tional framework for addressing a range of health care issues facing people living with HIV/AIDS," said Daniel Bross, executive director of AAC. HRCF director Tim McFeeley also praised the Clinton plan, saying "we believe that access to health care is a basic human right. We will be with him in this fight."

Colorado Hate Suspended

The United States Supreme Court let stand a Colorado Supreme Court order suspending implementation of Colorado's anti-gay rights measure, that was approved by voters a year ago, while a state court considers whether it violates the constitution.



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15 monday

Candidates for County Supervisor meets in a forum with the River City Democratic Club at 6:30 pm atthe YWCA at 17th & L Streets, Sacramento. Call 448-2383 for info.

16 tuesday

The Flirtations perform at the Palms Playhouse, Davis, at 8 pm.



Sacramento Chapter, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets at 7:30 pm at the Adult Education Building, St. Marks United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Marks Way, Sacramento. Call 665-1050 for info.

17 wednesday

Dell Richards will be speaking and signing her new book perstars,
Twelve Lesbians Who

bians Who Changed the World" at Lioness Books at 2224 J Street at 7 pm.



18 thursday

Gay Roller Skating at Foothill Skate Inn 4700 Auburn Blvd. \$5 Sponsored by SAGA IV. For more info call Tom at 635-1535.

19 friday

"Broadway Our Way" a production by the Lambda Players. Call 442-7752 for ticket information. Nov. 19 - Dec. 11

The Second Annual "Cool November Night" produced by Jammin' Jo and Carr-Tunes. Comedy entertainment and dancing at the Camillia Room of the Tuesday Club, 8 pm.Call 489-5656 for info.

November

"Burn This" by Lanford Wilson performed by The Show Below, 2130 L Street. Call 446-2787 for details. Nov. 19 - Jan. 1

"A Christmas Carol" performed at Garbeau's Dinner Theatre. Call 985-6361 for information.

Sacramento City College Gay Film Festival at Rm A-6 in the Auditorium on Sacramento City Campus from 7 - 12 pm. \$3. Call 371-6870 for info.

Romanovsky & Phillips performs at The Palms Playhouse, 726 Drummond Avenue, Davis at 8:30 pm.Call 756-9901 for info.

20 saturday

Margie Adam, lesbian/feminist, pop singer/songwriter performs at the Crest Theater, 1013 K. Street at 8 pm. Call 451-8034 for info.

Ms. Sacramento Valley Leather Contest at Garbeau's Too!, 111 K Street. Call 863-3398 for info.

Pansy Division, the pro-safe sex, all queer rock & roll band from San Francisco will be



performing at 3rd and B Street in Davis, 8 pm. \$4 cover.

Fairy Godfathers Fund, Inc. Meeting" at Faces, 2000 K Street at 1 p.m.

21 sunday

Faces Complimentary Thanksgiving Dinner from 5-8 pm hosted by Faces staff-Terry, Kerry, Lady Garnett, Leonard, Al and reigning Duke and Duchess Paul and Alta with Gail Von from 5:30-9:30 in the Fireside Lounge.

Chenille Sisters perform at Freeborn Hall, UC Davis at 2 pm.Call 757-3199 for info.

22 monday

Stocking Stuffers IV at Faces video bar. A benefit for PWAs at UC Davis. Doors open at 7 pm, 7:30 show. \$3.

23 tuesday

Competition at Faces, 2000 K Street. \$200 prize for winner.

25 thursday

Thanksgiving

26 friday

"Together Hunger Ends" Benefit Concert at The Crest Theatre, 1013 K Street, Sac. from 8 -10:30 pm. Call 753-0433 for info.

"A Christmas Carol" performed by The Sacramento Theatre Company opens at McClatchy Mainstage. Call443-6722 for info.

27 saturday

River City MCC Auction at the Grand Ballroom, 2741 34th Street, Sacramento at 7:30 pm. Call Angie at 362-1166 for info.

28 sunday

An Evening of Royalty presented by Shante at Faces video bar, 2000 K Street. 6 pm. A benefit for WEAVE and the Children's Home. \$2 donation at the door.

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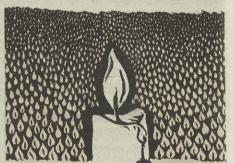
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1 wednesday

World AIDS Day, the 5th International Day of Action and Mourning in Response to the AIDS Crisis.

Melissa Kwasny reading and signing her book, "Trees Call for What They Need" at Lioness Books, 2224 J Street. 7pm.

3 friday

Comedy Central presents
"Out There," an evening of
lesbian and gay stand up comedy on cable channel 45. Check
listings for time.

"Twas the Night Before Christmas"
performed by the Dance Theatre West and
the Broadway Academy Theatre Dance
Companies. Call 483-2775 for info.
Dec. 3 - 12

5 sunday

Christmas Tree Lighting at the Lambda Community Center at 6 pm, photos with Santa at 7 pm. Music by the Men's & Women's Choruses and Helena Holiday. 1931 L Street. Call 442-0185 for more details.

Heatwaves Swim Team and SAGA Auction at the Town House, 7 p.m.

Aromatherapy Workshop sponsored by Moment of Touch, a place to please all your senses from 6-8. Call 443-4011 for reservations.

8 wednesday

Judy Grahn will be at Lioness Books reading and signing her book "Blood, Bread and Roses. Call 442-4657 for more details.

9 thursday

Hanukkah begins

10 friday

Women's Chorus
performs their Winter concert, "Light in the Darkness" at the St. Francis Church, 26th & K St. at 8 pm. and on Saturday the 11th at St. Paul's Methodist Church, 101 West St., Vacaville

Call 424-4411 for info.

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Circus Flora performs at Cal Expo, Lot E, next to Paradise Island. Call 264-5181 for info. Dec. 17 - 22

Gay Holiday Party at Disneyland from 8 pm - 1 am. produced by Odyssey Adventures. Call (818) 362-5505 for info.

"Red Nose Ball" a holiday ball held at the Tuesday Club, 27th and L Streets from 8pm to 1 am benefits (SAGA) Sacramento Arts and Games Association. Call 635-1535 for info.

18 saturday

The Sacramento Men's Chorus presents "A Season of Diversity" their holiday winter concert at 8 pm and Sunday at 3pm at St. Francis Church on 26th & K Streets in Sacramento. Call 444-5213 for info.

Dec 18 - 19

Stocking Stuffers IV, free show at UC Davis Main Auditorium at 1

21 tuesday

Barry Manilow performs at Sacramento's Arco Arena with 100% of the proceeds to benefit AIDS organizations in Sacramento. For information call 446-7525.

25 saturday

Christmas

December

31 friday

New Year's Eve Ball, sponsored by the latest ISSUE, Sacramento Lesbians Creating Change, The Sacramento Men's Chorus, The River City Democratic Club and the Lambda Community Center. Sacramento Grand Ballroom, 629 J Street. Tickets are \$30 and are available at the Lambda Community Center and the Gifted Gardener. Call 448-8504 for more details.

MONDAYS

Survivors of Sexual Abuse women's group from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. every other Monday, also Tuesday nights. Call 783-0563 for information.

Twin Spirits Veterans meets 3rd Monday of the month. Call 383-0940 for information

Worried Well Support Group, for HIV negative people effected by HIV Positive loved ones. 1st and 3rd Mondays. 6:30 p.m. Call 448-2437 for details.

Domestic Violence, a drop-in support group for men and women at the Lambda Community Center 7 - 8:30 p.m. Call 442-0185 for information.

Cabaret Von at Faces 2000 K Street from 6 - 9:30 pm. in the Fireside Lounge , entertainers welcome and Comedy Monday Nights from 8-10:30 pm in the Video

Room.

Men's Coming Out Group at the Lambda Center, 1931 L Street. Call 442-0185 for de-

Leshian and Gay Town Council, 2nd Monday
of each month. Call
448-0422 for info.

TUESDAYS

Being Gay Today, 10 p.m. on cable 18. An

hour of lesbian and gay programming.

Heart to Heart, a HIV+ support group that is for gay and bi-men to talk about common emotions. 6:30 - 8 p.m. 920 20th Street. Call 448-2437 for info.

Sacramento Leather Association, monthly meeting at the Wreck Room, 7 p.m. First Tuesday of each month. For info. call 863-3398.

WEDNESDAYS

Sacramento Area Gay and Lesbian Educators (SAGLE) meets the 2nd Wednesday each month. Starts at 6 pm (social) & 7 pm (business). Call 456-1610 for information.

THURSDAYS

Being Gay Today an hour of lesbian & gay programming on cable 18 at 10 pm.

HIV/AIDS Family Support /Group on the first and third at the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, 4641 Marconi Ave. For information call 483-5691.

CODA is a fellowship of gay men + women who seek recovery from disfunctional relationships through 12-step principles. Meets 7:30 p.m. Every Thursday at Lambda Community Center. 1931 L Street.

Rainbow Real Estate Professionals meets on the first Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Hungry Hunter, 450 Bercut Drive, Sacramento. For information call 921-6642.

Women's Coming Out Group meets from 6-7:30 at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street. Call 442-0185 for more information.

FRIDAYS

Poker Club, Lesbian Couples Over 35. 1st & 3rd Friday of each month. Call K or J at 649-1182.

Youth Group at Lambda Community Center

at 5:45 p.m. for gay, lesbian, and bi youth under age 21. Call Christopher at 442-0185 for information.

SATURDAYS

FrontRunners, a lesbian and gay running club. Meet at 9 am at Guy West Bridge opposite Sac State on University Ave side. Call Jim at 387-8275.



Different Spokes Sacramento, a lesuian and gay bicyling club meets at 9 am at McKinley Park at the Northeast end by the Tennis Courts

SUNDAYS

Dignity/Sacramento meets at 6 pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Call 443-8084 for information.

Women of Color Support Group, every Sunday, 7:15 - 9 p.m. Lambda Center 1931 L Street. Call 442-0185 for info.

Plan-lt ln Advance

To list your events in the Daily Plan-it, send a brief description of the event along with any graphic images you may have before the 5th of each month

to: the latest ISSUE

P.O. Box 160584 Sacramento, CA 95816.

the latest ISSUE 17

ENTERTAINMENT

Lesbian and Gay Humor Goes Mainstream

by Stacy Selmants

Thile an admirable. pioneering effort to bring openly queer humor into the mainstream, the upcoming Comedy Central special, "Out There" unfortunately is not the uproarious "Laff Riot" that the producers hoped it would be.

Taped in San Francisco, on "National Coming Out Day," the show will air on Dec. 3, on Comedy Central. (Channel 45 for those of you who are still trying to adjust to Sacramento Cable's latest channel scrambling.)

Hosted by rising star, the brash dyke-with-an-attitude Lea DeLaria, the show does have its funny moments, especially during Bob Smith's (onethird of Funny Gay Males) and Marga Gomez' sets.

Smith's humor is an amusing, self-deprecatory style of com-



Lea DeLaria is the host of Comedy Central's all-gay and lesbian comedy special "Out There."

edy. He muses about the "dysfunctional family potlucks" he's attended where you "bring a casserole and a personal issue," and considers what would happen if our founding fathers had been gay (the national anthem would have a 25 minute dance

Gomez, who has recently been eclipsed by DeLaria as the most nationally well-known lesbian comic, again played on her Latina heritage by recalling her naive first days in San Francisco, "I thought, "The Castro-

The press kits ballyhooed the inclusion of comic Steve Moore, an HIV positive man with an understandably dark view of the world, but only a minimal flair for comedy.

His bon mots included, "I've never looked better; soon I'll bedrop dead gorgeous, " and "The only way I could give myself a shot is to put myself on the toilet with a gardenia in my hair and a Billie Holiday album on in the background."

DeLaria, as emcee, was her usual in-your-face, het-bashing self, which delighted a number of the audience members. But for some of us, volume is no real substitute for wit.

Other performers rounding out the show were the amazingly bad "Jewish-American lesbian folksinger surfer" Phranc and the close-but-no-cigar unknown Scott Capurro. Phranc sang "Mrs. Brown You've Got A Lovely Daughter" (a lame tune even when the Herman's Hermits sang it in 1965). Capurro took the stage in a Star Trek outfit and glitter and publicly fantasized about the boys who sell clothes at The Gap.

Another of the show's comics, Suzanne Westenhoeffer, is beginning to receive mainstream recognition. She has appeared on a number of comedy specials, as well as that daytime staple, the Sally Jessy Raphael Show. She did not ap(which we attended) but reportedly was a big hit at the first COI

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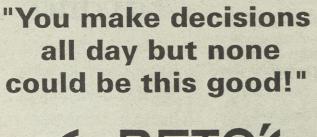
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Conspicuous by their absence

Taped on "National Coming Out Day," the show will air on Dec. 3, on Comedy Central.

were more well-known gay acts such as Lois Bromfield and Romanosky & Phillips. The unevenness of the show's quality is an indicator of how few openly queer comics are performing, and how starved gay/lesbian audiences are for entertainment that mirrors their lives.

So, watch the show, despite its many inadequacies -- because if "Out There" gets good ratings, the producers might do it again, but with a higher budget and better quality entertainment.





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18 the latest ISSUE

mid-november

The Flirtations and Romanovsky & Phillips Come to Davis

by Joyce Bezazian

ay men's music comes to Davis this month featuring the talents of Romanovsky and Phillips and the Flirtations in two separate concerts. Before you see the shows, pick up a copy of their most recent releases and prepare yourself to be entertained.

Romanovsky and Phillips' "Be Political Not Polite" is packed with 15 provocative and political songs. This 1991 release is the most recent joint effort by the duo.

But don't let the title fool you, because the album is not void of Romanovsky and Phillips' trademark humor and camp. "Be Political, Not Polite" is perhaps the best yet of the duo's entertaining musical commentary about gay and lesbian life; the joy, the pain, and yes, the politics.

John Bucchino is keyboardist/arranger and back-up vocalists include friends, Holly Near, Alix Dobkin, Phranc, and Michael Callen.

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The record has an acoustic sound, which works better on some tracks than others. The opening song, "I Met A Man," boasts wonderful harmonies reminescent of Simon and Garfunkle. However, "Tango Indigesto," would fare better with more musical back-up. A techno-pop sound a la the Pet Shop Boys, for example, could really spice up this number.

Bittersweet Romance is addressed in "Red Moon Over Boston" and "Closing Chapter," both written by Ron Romanovsky, who has recently recorded a romantic solo album ("Hopeful Romantic").

Most powerful are the songs addressing homophobia, both from within and outside of the gay/lesbian community: "Queers in the Closet," "Hymn" (addressing the Catholic Church), "Love is all it Takes" (for lesbian and gay parents), "One of the Enemy," and the title cut, "Be Political, Not Polite."

Some sound, yet humorous advice is given in "When Heterosexism Strikes" ("strike back!"). A common dilemma is comiically addressed in "Oh No... I'm in Love," /He calls it progress when I cry / Oh what a sweet and sensitive guy / Why couldn't you have been like this? / Oh no, I'm in love



Romanovsky and Phillips will be at the Palms Nov. 19.

with my therapist!"

As fun and provocative as R & P are on record, you won't want to miss an opportunity to see this duo live and in concert. And luckily you won't have to, as the boys are scheduled to appear at the Palms Playhouse in Davis on Friday Nov. 19 at 8:30 p.m. We gals are welcome, too, as Romanovsky and Phillips provide a very inclusive show for all the lesbian/gay community and its friends. So be you political, polite, or otherwise, be sure to be there!

The Flirtations - LIVE!

The Flirtations are an allmale accapella quintet with a sound and style akin to that of The Manhattan Transfer. This politically active band, however, puts a uniquely gay spin on many a traditional tune. This 1992 release was recorded live in Vancouver, and showcases the group's great harmonies, strong clear voices, and range.

The multi-cultural composition of The Flirtations gives an added dimension to the group's material. "Donde Esta Dolores?," for example, is a traditional Latin folksong rewritten by Flirt Aurelio Font. Aurelio makes the subtle lesbian content of the original explicit by answering the question: "Where is Dolores? She's run off with her girlfriends Magdalena!"

"Living in Wartime" is a dynamic call-to arms in the battle against indifference in the war on AIDS. The song was written by group member Michael Callen, who has recently stopped touring with the band due to his own long-standing battle with the disease. "My buddy/I'll Be Seeing You" is dedicated to the lovers, families and friends who have died of AIDS.

The Flirtations combine a terrific mixture of pleasure and politics. Old favorites like "Boy From New York City", "Johnny Angel", and "So Much In Love" (subtitled "Lesbian Love"), the men in their quest for husbands ask, "Mister Sandman, bring me a man... No one psychotic, or Republican... Give him two legs, like Greg Louganis, but make him public about his gayness!"

My personal favorite is the





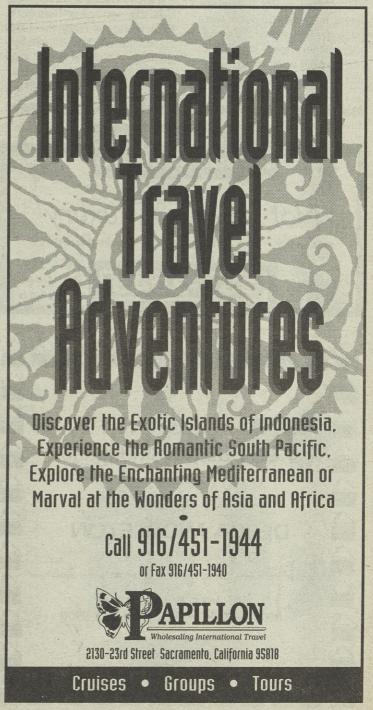


Jimmy Rutland, Cliff Townsend, Jon Arterton and Aurelio Font of the Flirtations.

Flirts remake of Julie Brown's classic and twisted "The Homecoming Queen's Got A Gun." The Flirtations version proves even more entertaining, with yet some extra humorous twists and turns. In case you haven't already figured it out, guess who gets to be the new home-

coming queen in this scenario?

The album closes with a moving modern-day lullaby entitled "Everything Possible." This live album captures the sounds of their wonderful voices and harmonies. The Flirtations will be live and in person, at the Palms on Tuesday, Nov. 16 at 8 p.m.



Sinatra Duets are as Personal as a Phone Call

by Bill Peterson

o, the "Chairman of the Board" is back again at 77, with an intriguing new concept album — gathering today's big sellers to sing along on lushly produced retreads from his catalog.

Unfortunately, for Frank, with the fine vocal talents of the like of Anita Baker, Luther Vandross and Barabara Streisand, it becomes very apparent that, not unexpectedly, Ol' Blue Eyes' voice and timing just aren't at their peak.

The best pairings are with Sinatra colleagues Tony Bennett ("New York, New York"), Liza Minelli ("I've Got the World on a String") and a lightly swingin' Natalie Cole "They Can't Take Away From Me."

Recorded with the help of digital fiber optics (telephone lines), many of the duets were put together without the swinging partners even meeting in the studio (Listen to the hilarious "I've Got You Under My

Skin" with U2's Bono unintentionally parodying himself, if you have any doubts!). Therefore, it's not surprising to find a detached air permeating many of the songs. This is made worse by the forced "interplay" between performers -- Frank's "I've got a crush, my Barbara on you..." is phoned back with a breathy "You make me blush, Francis" -- which spoils the supposed intimacy of duetting. **

Donna Summer "Anthology"

With 34 tracks and two discs, this CD set spans Summer's musical career from the 1975 classic "Love to Love You Baby" through a 1992 reunion with her longtime collaborator, Giorgio Moroder, on the closing "Carry On."

While short on new material (Don't Cry For Me Argentina" and "I'm A Rainbow"-both from an unreleased 1981 LP), this set does gather Summer's increasingly spotty-post "On the Radio"-high points, such as 1982's Michael Jackson-esqe "Love is in Control" and "State of Independence" (you may recognize it from Chrissie Hynde's recent soundtrack remake).

With plenty of 70s classics, such as "Last Dance," MacArthur Park," "Hot Stuff" and the moanfests "I Feel Love" and "Love to Love You," Anthology also includes non-hits from Summer's earlier albums that show more variety than the "On the Radio" hits collection did- a 1976 cover of Barry Manilow's "Could it Be Magic" and the 60s girl-group pastiche "Love's Unkind."

While she'll always be known as the "Queen of Disco," Anthology proves, with a solid stockpile of memorable tunes, Donna Summer was more versatile as a pop performer than a casual observer might think. ****

Mazzy Star
"So Tonight That
I Might See"

You've scrubbed the floors, cooked the turkey (or bean curd loaf) and mashed potatoes and just bade you last guest fare-

lights, burn a little incense, and turn on the second album by Mazzy Star.

Following the hazy-double vision-psychedelic/folk/blues formula of their debut, guitarist David Roback wraps around Hope Sandoval's dazed vocals, creating a moody tapestry that could even make Santa forget



David Roback and Hope Sandoval of Mazzy Star.

well, so relax a moment before you start to address that stack of Christmas cards. Dim the

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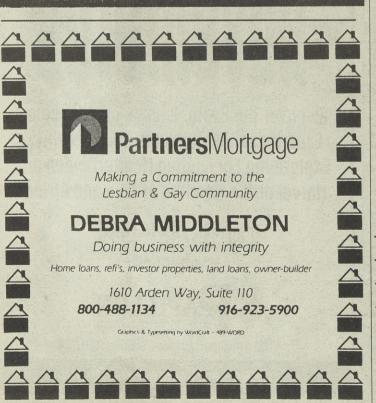
his big deadline.

When Sandoval drones "I feel like I've been wasted all day long." All day long" there's not a doubt that she's telling it like it is. ***

(H

Well, well, you made it to the end of my column, huh? then you shall be rewarded! Send me a post card with all the relevant info (Name, address, etc.) at the latest ISSUE, P.O. Box 160584, Sacramento., CA 95816 - telling me what your favorite festive holiday albums are and why—and you just might win a copy of Mazzy Star's CD. Now, that's what I call Thanksgiving!















Anthony Hopkins is Oscar-Bound Again

by Chris Narloch

Inless a miracle occurs between now and the end of the year, Anthony Hopkins should walk away with the Best Actor Oscar come March for his splendid performance in the new Merchant/Ivory film, "The Remains of the Day."

This captivating story of lost love reteams Hopkins with his "Howard's End" co-star, Emma Thompson, and indeed, lightening does strike twice -- they're glorious together (again). This time around Hopkins has the meatier part as the consummate English butler devoted to service above all else. Thompson plays his co-worker, a long-suffering housekeeper who endures his coldness and perfectionism because she secretly loves him.

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PER OHEE 5820 The time is WWII, and the place is England, home of the stiff upper lip, where Stevens (Hopkins) and Miss Kenton (Thompson) serve Lord Darlington (James Fox). The story unfolds in flashback, as Stevens, alone in middle-age, reflects on his career and personal life while traveling to visit Miss Kenton,

who is about to end an unhappy marriage.

The puzzle of the butler's sad life is revealed in bits and pieces, and we gradually understand the desperate importance of his journey to win Miss Kenton back to Darlington Hall.

Hopkins, who was chilling as Hannibal Lector in "Silence of the Lambs", brings a different brand of horror to his part in "The Remains of the Day". This is a man obsessed with his career, a man who suppresses all feeling, including his love for Miss Kenton, out of a deranged sense of loyalty to his role in life.

Hopkins has a field day with the part of Stevens, cooly giving orders to Miss Kenton and the rest of the staff, always with a superior air of detachment. One scene alone, when



Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson star in "The Remains of the Day."

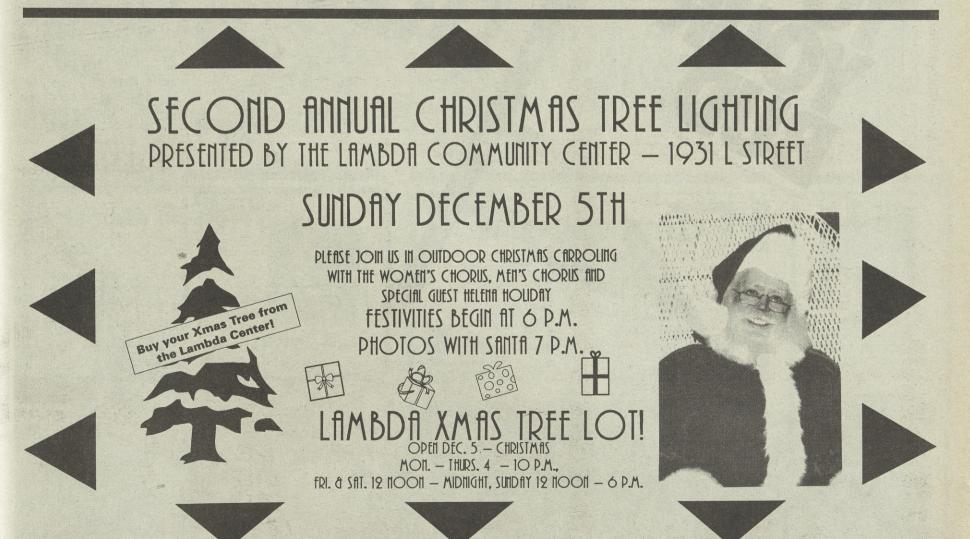
the butler heartlessly ignores his own father's death, is worth the price of admission. Late in the movie Stevens realizes his folly, and Hopkins changes every aspect of his performance. His posture and his voice begin to suggest defeat, and we see the lost soul behind the facade.

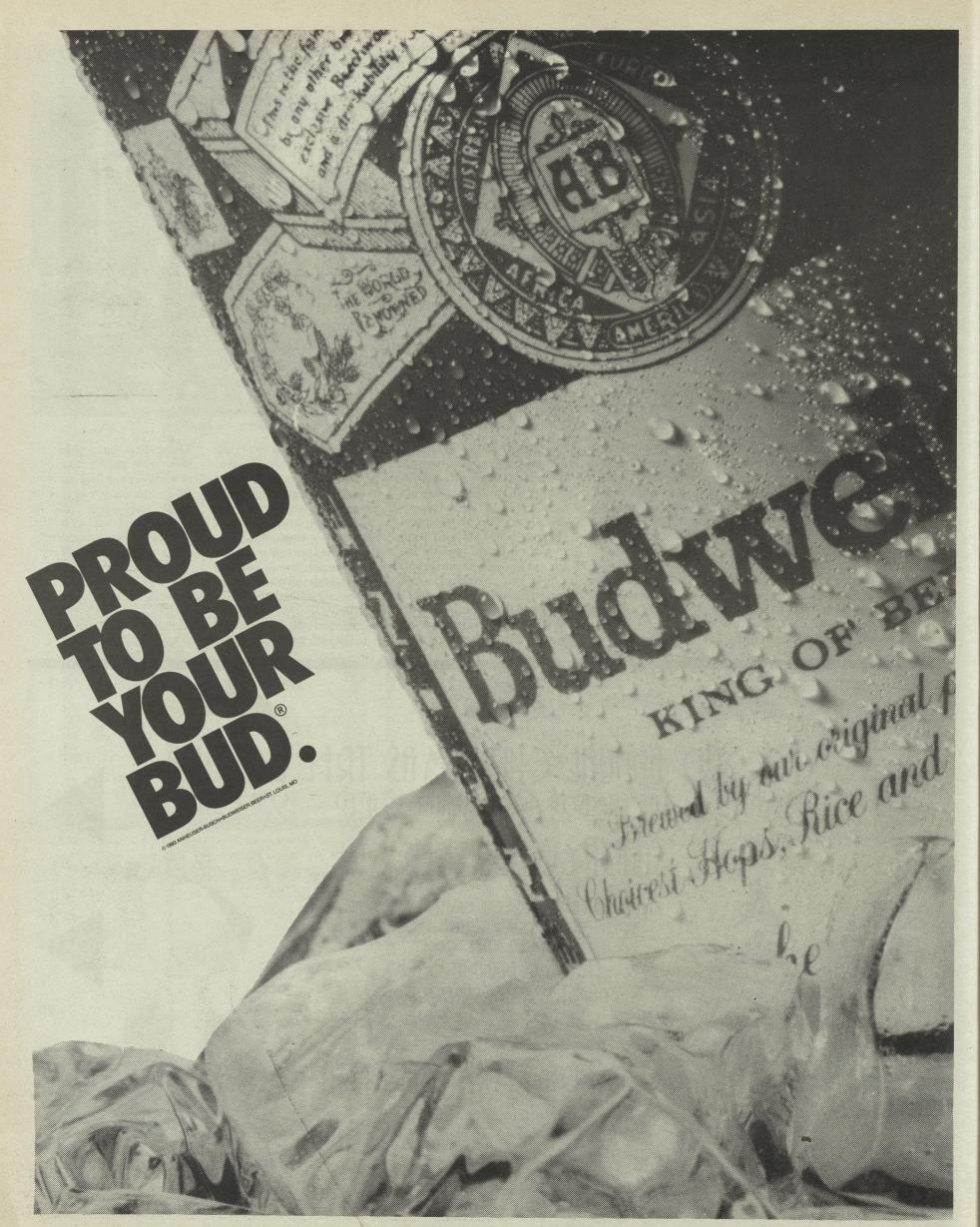
If Hopkins' character is a fool for duty, then Thompson's character is a fool for love. Thankfully, the movie avoids casting her as a pitiful victim. Miss Kenton lacks the butler's talent for cruelty, but in their often amusing arguments, she gives as good as she gets. And she is as much to blame for the failure of her own life as Stevens is for his. Her masochistic tendencies lead her to marry a man she does not love in order to spite the one she does. Thompson, not surprisingly, finds dignity in a part that could have become pathetic.

In the end, Stevens and Miss

Kenton have nothing left but their pride, and the tragedy is how high a price they pay for it. When Stevens learns that his master had become a pawn for the Nazis, and that he inadvertently aided their cause, even his sense of honor is tarnished.

"The Remains of the Day" is that rare film that can make viewers examine their own choices. It's about lives wasted and love denied.





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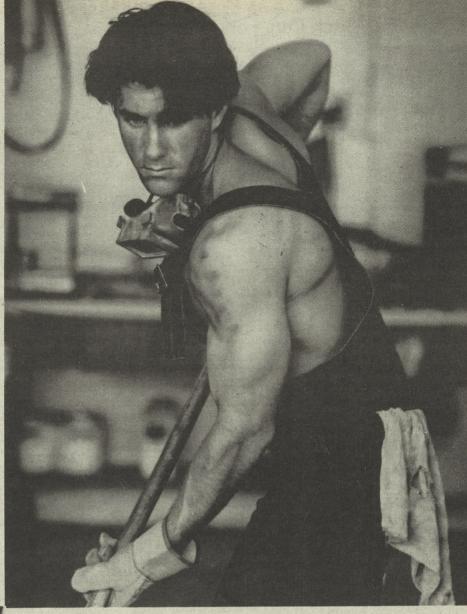
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The Gay Connection

Finally, A Great Comedy About AIDS: "Jeffrey"

If laughter is a tonic, then everyone, gay or straight, sick or well, should L see Paul Rudnick's wonderful new comedy "Jeffery." It's one of the best plays yet about AIDS, not to mention a charming gay love story, and its message is loud and clear. In a world weary of the epidemic, humor and romance are just what the doctor ordered.

The sexy, sarcastic fun gets underway as the curtain goes up on Act 1 to reveal two men in bed having sex. The condom breaks, and one of the men. Jeffrey, who turns out to be our narrator, becomes frantic. This opening scene sets the tone for the evening as a succession of men dressed only in their underwear and carrying condoms pop out of the bed and proceed to spoof every cliche about safe

The great fun of "Jeffrey" is how it takes so many serious subjects (promiscuity, death, religion) and turns them on their hilarious heads.

Jeffrey's answer to his accident is a life of celibacy, a decision that gets tested immediately when he turns to the gym to get his mind off sex, and is hit on immediately by a handsome man named Steve (the talented Stephen Caffrey, who was so good as Fuzzy in the film "Longtime Companion".) Steve,

it turns out, is HIV-positive, news that makes Jeffrey's cold feet even colder. What follows is like a gay version of "Sleepless in Seattle," a sentimental romantic journey with wickedly funny dialogue.

Along the way to the sweet, if predictable, finish we're treated to a zany satire of contemporary gay culture, including safe sex clubs, gay parades, self-help programs and gay fundraisers (this sequence, involving a "Hoedown For AIDS" with wealthy guests attired in western chic, is a howler.)

But then no target is taboo in "Jeffrey". When our hero visits a church for spiritual guidance, the priest turns out to be a closeted homosexual who practically rapes him.

With the exception of a few of the secondary characters the cast is uniformly strong. Morgan Strickland plays Jeffrey with a combination of awshucks wholesomeness and a

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Christmas Cards

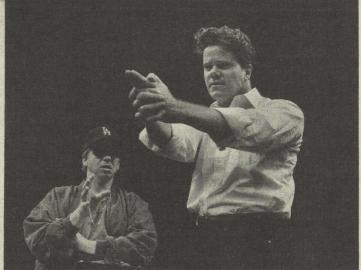
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Casting director Joe Lucas and (Jeffery) Morgan Strickland in Paul Rudnick's Award-winning comedy "Jeffery."

sexy bravado (he reports that he's had sex with about 5.000 men. "I'm cheap," he explains. "I

love sex".) And Stephen Caffrey, as his pursuer. Steve, is alternately endearing and raunchy as he tries to lure Jeffrey back to intimacy and trust.

Darlene Popovic manages seven different female roles with aplomb including a wonderfully funny self-help guru. Best of the lot, though, is Peter Bartlett as the bitchy interior decorator, Sterling, who has the funniest lines in the play (when asked what is most fatal to sexual desire, he replies, "fluorescent lighting".)

Aside from the direction, which could be a little tighter, and the set design. which is too spare, this production of Jeffrey" is a winner. The final embrace on the roof of the Empire State Building is a valentine to the healing power of love.

'Jeffrey" plays through Dec. 12 at Theater on the Square in San Francisco.





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10 PERCENT

continued from page 10

of the National Institute of Mental Health's Task Force on Homosexuality" (1972) Gebhard said that between 25% and 33% of adult white males with college education had an "overt homosexual experience since puberty." He also estimated that 4% of the white college-educated males and between 1-2% of the adult female population as predominantly or exclusively homosexual.

Though it is unwise to seriously compare any of the statistics from the Batelle study to those in the Kinsey study, let's live dangerously and take some liberties. Comparing Kinsey's conclusion in #3 to the 1.1% figure from Batelle we see there is not such an extreme disparity between the two reports: nearly three percentage points.

Additional tabulations by

Gebhard (McWhiter 1990) of Dr. Kinsey's original data of non-institutionalized males and females pointed to these results: "13.95% of males and 4.25% of females, or a combined average of 9.13% had either 'extensive' or 'more than incidental "homosexual experience.

So where does Batelle and similar studies come up with such tiny percentages? In an article in the Indiana University Alumni magazine titled "Kinsey's Famous Figures" Gebhard answers this question. He says that the Batelle study and others including the "Chicago National Opinion Research" study which also reported a 1-2% figure have serious flaws in their work.

These studies use pollsters who have only a few days of training in sexual interviewing. "They do not use professional sex researchers who have spent years interviewing in

their specialty." According to Gedhard the Batelle and Chicago surveyors were primarily middle-aged women, most without college educations.

The Kinsey professional interviews of the people sampled, on the other hand, were extensive. They covered subjects such as "masturbation fantasy, dreams content, number and gender of friends, erotic response to various stimuli and pre-adolescent sex play, we had a rather good idea as to a person's sexual orientation before we asked about homosexuality."

He also said that random probability sampling, the kind used in the Batelle study, while good for most data gathering is, "inappropriate for ascertaining the incidence of homosexuality." He pointed out that gay people move from rural communities to the anonymity of large cities, so rural samples will be almost completely de-

void of them.

In the cities gays usually gather in gay communities. These, he said, are relatively small and usually missed in random sampling. Worse yet, Gebhard said, is "the custom of interviewing only one member of a household is disastrous in a gay community, where everyone in the household is apt to be homosexual."

Two other studies tend to support Kinsey's figures. In 1970 the magazine "Psychology Today" conducted a survey by polling its readers. There were about 20,000 returns of the questionaire and precisely 37 percent reported a homosexual experience. In 1983 the magazine "Playboy" did a similar survey of its readers. After receiving about 100,000 returns of their questionnaire, it was determined that about 35 percent reported a homosexual experience.

Kinsey's 10 percent figure also suffered from the inclusion of a disproportionate large number of prison inmates. So Gebhard in his 1979 study excluded them. That study identified persons with 21 or more partners of the same gender and/or 51 or more homosexual experiences.

Gebhard said, "For white college-educated males the percentage was 9.9; for the less than college-educated, 12.7 percent."

Interestingly enough the figures for women were opposite to those of the males. More particularly white college-educated women the percentage was 3.7 and for women of less education the percentage was also lower, 1.6 percent.

According to the article not all of these people were predominantly homosexual. In other words, just as an example, a man could have a romance with another male for a year and make love once a week for that year. He would qualify for the study but would not necessarily be considered primarily homosexual.

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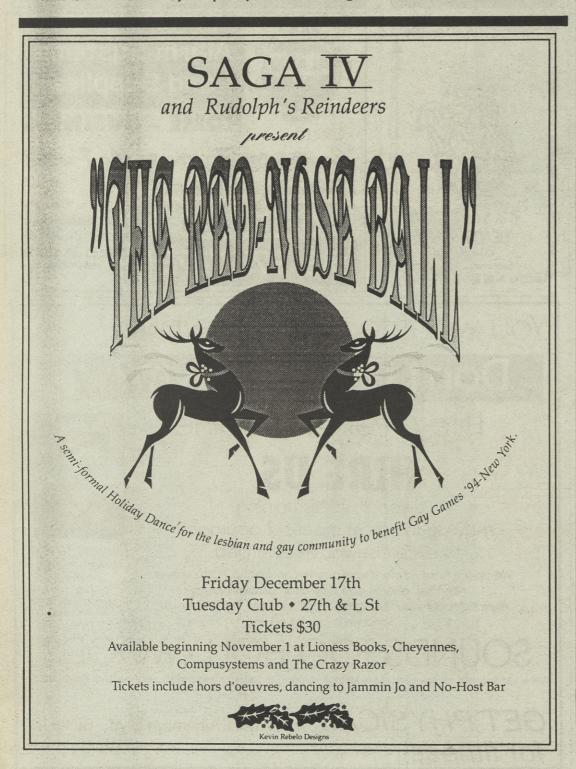
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It seems that what the Kinsey's report and the Gebhard report are saying is that there are a greater number of bisexuals out here among the general population than most gays and a good deal of the majority of the population would guess.

It is possible that as the gay and lesbian population becomes more familiar with these reports and their conclusions, they will have a turn-around and grow to endorse and encourage the inclusion of all self-identified bisexuals into the struggle for sexual liberation.





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the holiday season already?
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The number one benefit this season is the upcoming Barry Manilow Concert at the ARCO Arena Dec. 21. ALL proceeds from the concert (estimated to be over \$100,000) will benefit the Sacramento AIDS Foundation, CARES and Hope House. Thanks to organizer Ted Ross, Manilow is donating 100 percent of his talents for the fundraiser.

Other seasonal events include: a free Thanksgiving dinner at Faces, Nov. 21, Holiday concerts from the Sacramento Men's Chorus, (Dec. 18 and 19) and the Sacramento Women's Chorus (Dec. 10 and 11).

Sacramento Arts and Games Association (SAGA) is having a "Red Nose Ball" Dec. 17, and the Buffalo Club has big plans for their Christmas Party Dec. 16

Five community organizations are working together to produce the "New Year's Ball" Dec. 31 with music provided by Second Wind. This is the second year the party has been put on, but this year the Sacramento Men's Chorus has been included to make sure the men and women at the party are in equal numbers. "This is a party for the entire gay/lesbian/bi

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community" says Michael Sestak of the River City Democratic Club. The latest IS-SUE is proud to sponsor this event along with, RCDC, Men's Chorus, Sacramento Lesbians Creating Change and the Lambda Community Center.

Congratualtions are in order for new parents Kelly and Melody whose baby, Zachary Lowell Blakeslee Reid, was born on Nov. 12. Friends Ellen French, Sharon Liberatore, Linda Kingsley and Ruthie were in the delivery room. to greet and welcome him into the world.

In October, the Halloween party season was wild with roaming drag queens and barely clad women. Big Art sponsored an "Erotic Art Ball" at the Eastern Star Temple and a man named "Dick" made Linda Jolley and Bob Brawley remove all art with penises in them. Oh well, I guess they

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should have titled it "Semi-Erotic Art Ball."

Members of ACT UP came to Sacramento Oct. 29 to demonstrate what their thoughts are on California's care of people with AIDS. Several activists claim to have been clubbed by state police as they tried to step on the Capitol grounds. Ouch.

In the "Hurt Me, I Like It" event listings this month is the Ms. Sacramento Valley Leather Contest at Garbeau's Too, Nov. 20. The venue will be a welcome change from past locations and rumor has it, this year they have more than one contestant! For more details call the Sacramento Leather Association at 863-3398.

And speaking of pain, Sacramento City Councilmember Josh Pane has announced that he will not run again for the district 3 seat. Michael Boyd of RCDC has been considering

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running for the vacancy, and will hopefully announce his candidacy in the near future. The district includes the areas of East Sacramento, Midtown, and Lavender Heights.

November is Michael Boyd's birthday month as it is for Dr. Garrett Madderra. Madderra turns 30 and his partner Tom Jackson put on a rip-roaring party to celebrate.

The same weekend, Mark Hoffman (of Sports Leisure Travel) and Clayton Whitehead held their celebration of unity with a ceremony. Congratulations!

The staff of the latest ISSUE wish each and every one of our readers a holiday season filled with joy.

The editorial deadline for our next issue is December 1st. Camera-ready advertising materials are due by December 5th.



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REPORTER

Fun and Fundraising This Holiday Season!

by Stephanie Carlisle

he courtiers of CGNIE will be flinging frolics far and wide this month and into December as the holiday season gets into full gear.

Our own Emperor Steve wants the gay and lesbian community to know that their presence is welcomed and requested at all their fundraising events. Nobody throws a party like the Court of the Great Northern Imperial Empire!

Nov. 21, Empress Yvette and

Members of the Court are winging their way to the state of Idaho to shed some glitter at a fundraiser in Boise benefiting Children's Hospital and Idaho State University's Gay-Lesbian-Bi Student Alliance. Then, on

Emperor Steve will be competing in a charity Bowl-A-Thon in Stockton. Drive down and support your Sacramento representatives! On Monday the 22nd, former

Empress Stacey will host her 'Stocking Stuffer' production at Faces at 7 pm. There will be a donation required of either \$3, or an item to be stuffed in an AIDS patient's Christmas stocking.

Thanksgiving weekend will be jam-packed with activities. Starting that Friday, the downtown merchants will kick off their 'Window Wonderland' window decorating contest. The Court will be dressing up the window of the Fireside Financial Service building across the street from the Capitol.

Then it's off to LA-LA Land for the annual Coronation or the Los Angeles Court, for the entire weekend. Lord knows the Southland could use a diversion after all those fires!

On Saturday of Thanksgiv-

ing Weekend, there will be TWO events taking place. That afternoon, Grand Duke Paul and Grand Duchess Alta will host a show at the Metropolitan Community Church on Broadway in conjunction with MCC's annual auction.

Then, that evening, two local charities (W.E.A.V.E. and the Sacramento Children's Home) will benefit from a buffet and show at the Town House. Doors open at 6 and the show begins AIDS awareness and education, members of the Court will be selling a Red Ribbon Stamp at a local office. Watch for advertising flyers as to the exact lo-

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On Friday the 5th, Modesto will be hosting its annual investiture-- always a colorful event. Then on Sunday Dec. 7, the Court will hold an open meeting at Faces (7:30 pm) for all those interested in getting involved in the great and generous work

Members of the Court are winging their way to the state of Idaho to shed some glitter at a fundraiser in Boise ...

at and there will be \$5 donation taken at the door.

The following night, Paul and Alta will host "Shante- An Evening of Royalty" at 6 pm sharp at Faces video bar. The donation for this show is \$2 and goes to the same two charities.

On Tuesday the 30th, the Board of Directors of CGNIE will hold their monthly meeting at the Lambda Center at 7pm. Oh, to be a bug in someone's wig at that meeting!

There is no rest for the wicked as the very next day (Dec. 1) is World AIDS Day. To promote

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that they do.

The CGNIE Christmas party will be held on Dec. 5 at the Town House. There will be no cover -- just come out and enjoy the socializing holiday cheer as everyone takes a break in this busy, busy month.

One week before Christmas, Stacev will host a very special "Stocking Stuffers IV" party at UC Med Center. It will take place at 1 pm. in the afternoon, and Stacey really wants a good crowd to come out and show their love to our ailing brother and sisters.

Finally, keep in mind that Reno will be hosting a national AIDS benefit soon. The exact date is not known at this time, but you can call Steve at 447-2081 for information about this and all other Court - related functions.

Have a happy, fun and fulfilling holiday season. Stephanie plans to get stuffed on T-Day! Hope v'all do too!



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916-364-1414 PACKARD & **ASSOCIATES**

New Murals Bring Art to Sacramento Streets

by D. Oldham

he Downtown streetscape has recently been improved with the placement of large murals on some of the city's most unattractive buildings.

The new murals are part of the Comprehensive Revitalization Strategy, a plan designed to improve the look of downtown.

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The project involves a \$65,000 grant from the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) and cooperation from local business owners and the Downtown District.

The murals are located around Jand K Streets between 8th and 10th Streets and mark the first time a public art project of this size has been attempted in the Sacramento area.

The eight murals represent a new interest in public art as well as a significant boost in support from the business com-

Noel Consigny's "Intend to Fly" is a 110' x 14' painting done using the wall of Woolworth's on 10th and K Streets as a canvas. The soaring winged businessman is a witty comment on the usual downtown foot traffic and is sure to make the stoic businessman smile a bit as he walks to work.

This mural serves as a companion piece to a Rockwell-ish mural painted on Rodney's called "The Pickle Barrel". Unfortunately, the mural is a bit too cute. Although it is not as visually offensive as the large lottery sign that graced the wall previously, it does lack the soothing quality of Consigny's

"Celebration of Sacramento"

is the mural occupying the wall at Leroy's, 800 K Street and was completed by Anne Whitehurst and three inmates from the Central California Women's correctional facility in Chowchilla. It marks the first venture between private business and the correctional facility. The 8' x 94' mural is a visual tribute to Ms. Whitehurst's ability to provide an artistic outlet for these inmates while contributing something positive to the community.

The boldest of the new murals is a movable 3 panel mural done by local artist Sherman Warren. Painted with black and white images "Building +

Galleries A GO-GO

9 - Dec 3. Call gallery for more information.



Sherman Warren at the mural site at 908 12th Street.

People= Cities" measures 10' x 27' and will be installed at a vacant building at 910 12th Street. It will provide a dramatic view for Lite Rail commuters as well as being a needed

Archival Framing: 1729 L Street (916) 444-9624. Through December 3: "Night and Day" Work by William Maul. Dec. 6 - 23, Drawings by Al Farrow, a benefit for Reception: Saturday Dec. 11, 7-9 pm.

Big Art: 1928 L Street (916) 446-2740. Pen and Ink drawings and works in metal by Robert Marler. Nov.

The Michael Himovitz Gallery: 1020 10th Street (916) 448-8723. Through Dec. 4 Works by Ed Paschke, Paul Harris and Tommy Leaver. Dec. 8 - Dec 31: Works by Miriam Davis, Maggie Jimenez,

The Judith Weintraub Gallery: 1723 J Street (916) 442-3360. Painting is Alive, works by Danae

The Lite Rail Gallery: 912 12th Street (916) 441-1013. New York by Dennis Angel and Sherman Warren

The Center for Contemporary Art: 1116 15th Street (916) 448-6269. Through December: Sculpture by

Duke's Coffee Gallery: 2416 16th Street (916) 444-5563. Opening exhibition featuring a collection of

Gallery W: 901 W Street (916) 444-5125. "Crosshatch Group Show" Through Dec. 12. Poetry Reading:

J Maddux Parker Gallery: (916) 448-6616. Through Dec. 4, "Real Tales" Work by Sharon Jacques.

Anya Horvath Gallery: 4399 Arden Way (916) 488-1901. Michael Mew and Kirk Cooper Thru Dec. 4.

Carolyn Schneider and Margaret Woodcock. Reception: Dec. 11 5-8 pm.

Anderson, Mary Campbell, and Laureen Landau. Nov. - Dec. 4.

Scott Runion. Reception: Saturday Nov, 20, 7-9 pm.

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improvement to a building that was previously an eye sore.

Warren exhibits his work at the Lite Rail Gallery located near the mural site and will be showing during November. The

artist states that his mural is "an equation that can be analyzed and interpreted as a positive message about Sacramento."

Before the weather gets cold, skip the hoopla over the Downtown Plaza and spend an afternoon walking Sacramento's new street scape. Check the listing of murals and take a lunch hour stroll along K Street.



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1001 J Street (Rodney's)
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912 K Street "Faux Windows" Stephanie Taylor

800 K Street (Leroy's)
"Celebration of Sacramento" Anne Whitehurst

1000 K Street (Woolworth's) " Intend to Fly" Noel Consigny

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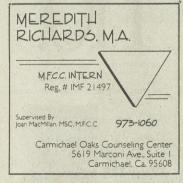
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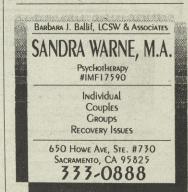
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public policy. Must have minimujm 5 year's comparable experience. Salary \$35K plus benefits. Resume and cover letter by Dec. 15 to GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro #B, San Francisco CA 94114. To request full job description, call 510-273-9146 and leave your name and address.

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ACT UP

continued from page 5

ACT UP Golden Gate, had severe bruises and required medical attention. "The brutality and hostility we were met with from the police was indicative of the policies and attitudes of Pete Wilson and his attitudes towards people with AIDS," said Edward Zold, a member of ACT UP Golden Gate.

"The State Police wanted us to obtain a permit and submit a bond to cover any possible damages which was not financially possible," stated Zold.

The protesters refused to obtain a required permit to assemble at the State Capitol and were blocked at the California Vietnam Veteran's Memorial across from the Capitol. "We refused to play their game because there are far too many people dying and serious issues at hand to deal with this blatant suppression of our first amendment right to free speech and freedom to assemble," said Zold.

Some demonstrators held

poster-size pictures of men and women who died of AIDS while others carried the ashes of loved ones.

"I'm here to remember two men, Terry Suton and Collin Blakeney" said Rebecca Hensler, a member of ACT UP San Francisco. Hensler carried the ashes of Collin Blakeney which she later tossed into the air in front of a line of horse-mounted police. Hensler exclaimed, "How many people have to die before Wilson realizes we are in a state of emergency?"

VETERANS

continued from page 5

doms that you yourself are not allowed to enjoy." Meinhold explained that he did not enlist to serve an institution or the homophobes in the government and pentagon. He joined the military in order to do what his military oath tells him to do, "defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic." For that reason, he sees his struggle against the bigotry and discrimination that denies him his full civil rights as a part of his duty to his oath. He stated that, "those who would deny gays and lesbians rights, in and out of the military, are not supporting the Constitution."

In related events nationally, Senator Sam Nunn included a codification of the ban in September's \$261 billion Defense Authorization Bill. Such codification will make it impossible for the ban to be lifted by executive order in the future. It includes a provision which will allow a future secretary of defense to reinstate the policy of questioning a recruit's sexual orientation.

In another event that relates to the military morale that the ban purports to preserve, two ex-Marines have filed suit over a hazing they were subjected to following five months of training for the Marine Silent Drill Team in Yuma Arizona. They say that during the hazing on Feb 13, 1992, fellow Marines dumped human excrement on them and burned their genitals with a caustic polish. One Marho participated videotaped the incident. That tape was aired on Prime Time Live on October 28.

Lt. Zoe Dunning reminded the crowd at the Sacramento veterans ceremony that no discharges have resulted from the Tailhook incident. The same is true of the Yuma case.

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RUSSIA continued from page 10

several gay and lesbian rights organizations, it was only a few years ago that arrest, tortue and humiliation of gays and lesbians was part of everyday life.

Early next year the International Gay and Lesbian Human

Rights Commission is scheduled to release a document expressly concerned with Russian gay and lesbian human rights.

If you wish to obtain more information contact the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission in San Francisco at 514 Castro Street, CA 94114, or call (415) 255-8680.

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